



Rick & Sue McCoy

Vote November 5!!

“When the righteous rule, the people rejoice, when the wicked rule, the people groan!” Prov. 29:2

Elections Have Consequences!

Are you happy with the way things are in our country today?

- Everything, good or bad, in our country has come about from the people we have voted into offices of authority in the past.
- The freedoms that we have already lost and the current craziness came about from the actions and decisions of people in offices of our local, state, and federal governments!

Every Vote Counts!

Every eligible voter has an impact on the outcome of each election.

- Even if you don't vote, you just voted for the person you did not want in that office!
- There are several elections every year that are won or lost by just a few votes.

Do the Math!



Future Shock – It's Already Here!

The first time I ever heard about Future Shock was when Sue and I were being mentored by Larry Napier of Rediscovery of the Heart. He described it as when things are moving so fast the future overtakes the present. You might be like I was, curious but unable to really grasp the significance of what he was saying. I have pondered the idea and seen what I thought were examples of future shock for many years, but my greatest clarity came when I listened to someone say, “We really live in the future, not the present.” Before you stop reading, let me explain why he said that! On the timeline of our life, the “present” is a fleeting moment that quickly becomes part of our past. By the time you got to the period in the last sentence, all that sentence was now in your past! We are continually transitioning from the present into the future. Almost all our thoughts, actions, and energy are focused on and occur in the future! All of our prayers are about the future!

Just a few days ago, it was August 31, and I thought, “Wow! Where did the month go? It seemed like just yesterday that it was August 1 and I had this whole month ahead to get this Love Letter done as well as do many other things on our calendar!” Now it's September 6 and I am just now getting around to typing this letter! Future Shock! In life we are constantly moving from the past into the future and the “present” is the transition between the two. We are always one breath away from being in the future. However, we do accomplish a lot in that brief moment on the timeline called “present!”

I have heard many people, including myself, say, “It seems like time is speeding up!” Or another familiar question we ask, “Where did all the time go?” We never get to do what we want to do because the immediate demands all our attention. We try to cram as much as we can into every moment of our day, week, month, and year! We wake up early and go to bed late exhausted trying to get as much done as possible. I find it hard to pause and rest because I am constantly thinking about all the things I still need to do. We are trying to multi-task and keep all the balls in the air at the same time. We get so intensely focused on the present that the future sneaks up on us and we are not ready for it. Future Shock!

Another big thief of the present are all the distractions that I can get involved in. I can find myself spending hours checking the news, trying to keep up with all what is happening in our country and world right now.

I want to be more involved with the upcoming election which requires me to attend meetings, research candidates, knock on doors, etc. I can also get caught up in exploring all the interesting information on the internet and reading books. There are other people who spend hours on social media, surfing the internet, and on their cell phones. I know some people who spend hours watching TV, playing video games, or just deleting all the spam and history off their phones! We can get overwhelmed by all the information and everything that is now at our fingertips and lose track of time until Future Shock stands at our door!

Future Shock comes from living focused only on this world and not being aware of where we are or where we want to go. Future Shock can affect us in either positive or negative ways. If we are lost in some distraction that has drawn us away from where we are or want to be, future shock can be the jolt of reality that wakes us up and puts us back on track towards where we want to go or be in the future. It's a reality check that either helps us refocus and move forward, or it can overwhelm us and spin us off into fear, dread, hopeless despair, or quitting. Future Shock can also blindside us through the death of a relative or loved one. Whether it was anticipated or comes as a surprise, death of a friend or loved one still affects our lives. I came face-to-face with that when my mother died, I had to deal with the reality that I would not see or interact with her again until I get to Heaven! There is an abrupt end to the future with that person and the reality that the relationship with that person has come to an end in this life. Your future may make an abrupt turn and take you in an entirely different direction.

How Can We Avoid Future Shock?

The only thing that we can physically impact or have control over is the "present." Prayer is in the present, but always impacts the future! The future is not necessarily guaranteed, although it can be affected by what has happened in the past or by what we do in the present. For example, we can declare things, speak curses or blessings, pray, make investments, buy or sell, make plans, etc. that will all affect what happens in the future! Our prayers and faith can actually bring things that are in the future into the present. Our faith can also speed up the time between our "Amen" and the "there it is!" If we stay focused and enjoy the present, make progress, and move towards the future,

Future Shock can be avoided or lessened.

God is in the past, present, and the future. Jesus told the Pharisees that He was around before Abraham. **John 8:53** God is not limited by time; He lives outside of time. His timeline is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and last! **Rev. 22:13** In eternity, time becomes irrelevant. Seers are people who are able to see into the spirit realm and prophets can hear and see God in all three parts of time: the past, present, or future. When we dream, we can see glimpses of ourselves from the past or into the future too. Walking with our Heavenly Father and being aware of His presence all the time will help us see things the way He does and help us not be impacted by Future Shock.

Live in the Moment

"My life, my every moment, my destiny – it's all in your hands." **PS.31:15 TPT**

"You are where your heart is; you can't be anywhere else!" Larry Napier

The present is full of limitless possibilities and opportunities in our life here on earth. We experience our Heavenly Father in the present where we can be with Him. It is where we experience His Love, peace, and joy. The present is where we experience all our emotions and all of life through all of our five physical senses. Relationships with others are experienced and built in the present. It is also where we connect to the spirit realm and can become aware of or see parts of our past and future. In the present is where we can separate ourselves for times of soaking, meditation, and quieting our troubled souls. The present is where we discover who we are and become aware of our surroundings.

When Sue and I minister to others in our home or when we are overseas, we teach everyone how to experience Emmanuel Moments. Emmanuel means "God with us." We help people be able to spend time one-on-one with Father or Jesus in interactive conversation, gratitude, or other activities in the Spirit. I have had some amazing times with Jesus and have learned a lot about myself and who He is for me. It is where I began experiencing God as my Father who loves me just the way I am and has nothing but good plans for my life! Just like in a marriage, we must be present with Him to receive His great love for us! You can learn more about how to experience Emmanuel at our YouTube channel (Spending Time With Emmanuel (Parts 1&2) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-SsRTGdLug&t=12s>



Stay in the Peace of God

In Ecclesiastes Solomon tries to find peace apart from God, but finally comes to the conclusion that the only way to find peace is to “Fear God and obey His commandments.” **Ecc. 12:13** We must live from the Kingdom of God and not from the kingdoms of this world. We are meant to live as sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father. Right now, our country and the other nations of the world are experiencing unprecedented levels of turmoil, confusion, violence, oppression, demonic influences, and evil deeds. It’s a battle for me to stay focused on what Father is doing and the coming renewal and revival that is beginning to sweep over our land. I cannot let fear, worry, doubt, hopelessness, and other negative emotions overwhelm me. Jesus warned us that we would have troubles in this world causing us to despair and be afraid, but we can take heart because He has overcome the world!

John 16:33

Set Your Focus on the Things Above

We live in this world, but we are not of this world. We live in the Kingdom here on earth and we need to keep our focus on the reality that we are royal sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father. He now takes care of all our needs according to His riches in glory. **Phil. 4:19** Father, the Unlimited One, now lives in me and I am a physical extension of His Divine Nature here on the earth. As I have meditated and become more aware of God inside of me, it has become easier and easier to walk in faith believing that my Heavenly Father loves me, protects me, supplies all my needs, and will take care of me both physically and financially. It has removed much of the pressure to perform and do everything myself. I am more at peace now and able to flow through the day without getting so stressed out or in fear of the future. As I have begun to speak His Words and think His thoughts more, I have been able to see the good things in my future come into my life faster. I still need to keep casting all my cares on Him and not allow all the demands and busyness of the day to steal my joy and peace to enjoy this moment with Him!

Live Like You’re Already There!

Eph. 2:6-7 says that we are already “seated on earth in Heavenly places in Christ” and Father is showing us the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness towards us! We are living as His

ambassadors on the earth fulfilling His dream and destiny for us to rule and reign over all His creation. We are to represent (re-present) His love and nature to this lost and fallen world that struggles to just survive and make it through each day. Jeremiah says that Father has thoughts about us of peace and not evil that will give us a good future and hope. **Jer. 29:11** Even in the fallenness and chaos of our society and the governments of this world, we can stay in peace and restful confidence that Father is in control and the future is going to be good! When we exercise and strengthen our faith in what Jesus accomplished on the cross, we can begin to live more and more free from fear, free from sickness and disease, free from poverty and lack, and free from all the hopeless despair and problems of this world.

As Sue and I look back at where we were when we first met and where we are now, we are amazed at all Father has been able to do in and through us as we have submitted our hearts and lives to Him and His great love for us! At times it seemed hard or even impossible, but Father has always been faithful and good to us and has never failed us yet. We try to live in the “unforced rhythms of grace,” seek His wisdom, and allow Father to direct our paths and shine His light on our ways. We keep picking our feet up and moving forward into all that Father has for us to do and experience in this world. Future Shock doesn’t seem to come as often or have as great an impact on our lives now!

*“Are you tired? Worn? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.” **Matt. 11:28-30***



A Father's Blessing

I bless you with daily blessings from your Heavenly Father as He pours out His comforting love on you. I bless you to experience His presence all day long and as you sleep at night. May your rest be sweet, your heart stay at peace, and bring refreshing and renewed life for each coming day. I bless you with Father's shalom peace and His joy to quiet you and comfort you all the time. I bless you with a greater revelation of living in the Kingdom where all your needs will be met, and you can walk in divine health and prosperity. I bless you to be able to cast all your cares on Him and live from your heart and not just your head.



**"I Have
LOVED You
With An
EVERLASTING
LOVE."**