by Wayne Goff

mily and I traveled for a few days on a brief vacation and experienced two "near misses" while driving. The first came while driving on a two-lane road with construction going on around us. A large piece of rubber from a truck tire, I assume, came flying down the road and struck a small car in front of us, causing him to swerve and nearly wreck. The chain reaction led the cars following to attempt to dodge the rubber while maintaining control of the vehicle. We were the second car and in a moment of time a serious accident could have caused the lives of any of those involved. Thank God, nobody was hurt, and only one car seemed to suffer any damage. That was a very close call!

The second "near miss" took place in Northwest Arkansas on a very busy four-lane highway. A large wheelbarrow came flying out of a pickup truck and landed upside down on the highway, sliding across multiple lanes. Once again, we were the second car from the wheelbarrow. A pickup truck in front of us had to slam on his brakes to keep from hitting the wheelbarrow, and we did the same. How close did we come to a more serious accident? Only God knows for sure. But if that wheelbarrow had hit and bounced up, striking the windshield of a car, it could have resulted in a fatality. Or if another car had rear-ended us on that busy, high-speed highway, it could have had serious consequences. A life could have been taken in a moment of time.

The lesson to be learned is simple. Life is brief, fragile and uncertain. Any one of us could be gone in a moment of time, through no fault of our own. At the moment of death only one question matters: "Are you prepared to meet your God?" If not, then you have deluded yourself into thinking that life is long, stable and certain. Many of you readers have experienced similar things, or even worse. All of us should be thankful for every day of life, live life to the fullest, in a godly, heavenward manner. As Solomon said, "time and chance happen to (us) all" and "man does not know his time: like fish taken in a cruel net, like birds caught in a snare, so the sons of men are snared in an evil time, when it falls suddenly upon them" (Eccl. 9:11-12).

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