

## Highly Unlikely versus Absolutely Certain

Ponder: What concerns you?

Scripture: “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6, NKJV).

According to an online Newsweek article, the Chinese space station, Tiangong-1, will crash into the earth sometime between late March and mid-April of this year. Do you think we should busy ourselves constructing bunkers in which to hide, lest the 8.5-ton craft flatten us like a pancake?

The article was almost comical giving the wide range of locations the debris could impact – anywhere from the northern USA to South America to China to Europe to the Middle East to Africa to Australia. Evidently the penguins in Antarctica will not be affected!

In all seriousness, scientists figure most of the material will burn up as it re-enters Earth’s atmosphere. What little debris is left will almost certainly not strike you or me – the chance of a person being hit is said to be about a million times smaller than the odds of winning the Powerball lottery. Possible? Of course – almost anything is theoretically possible. But the likelihood is virtually zero.

The odds that you and I will stand before God to be judged, however, are 100%. God “has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead” (Acts 17:31). Surely this ought to concern us infinitely more than 8.5 tons of space junk that we almost certainly won’t even notice!

Whereas we have a rough idea of when Tiangong-1 will crash, we have no idea when Jesus will return to judge the world in righteousness. We know, however, that judgment will be universal. “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad” (2 Corinthians 5:10). Whether in the USA, South America, China, or anywhere else – even any people who happen to be in Antarctica – every individual will be judged. “Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men” (2 Corinthians 5:11).

There’s a great day coming! Are you ready?

Song: “There’s A Great Day Coming”

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we are so easily distracted by things that don’t really matter. Help us to focus on the important things that are certain. Your word tells us plainly that you will judge the world through Jesus. If we are prepared for that, nothing else matters. If we aren’t, nothing matters. Help us to be ready. In Jesus’ name, Amen.