

Modern Medicine not yet Eternal

We received the news that Bro. Willie Villarente's Covid-19 infection through his family that his condition was getting worse. He had bleeding in his brain and was in a coma. It cast a pall of gloom over the community which was praying so hard for his recovery as well as for his wife Sis. Annie. Sis. Annie's condition started to improve. Not so for Bro. Willie. We received a text that it was just a matter of time. A matter of time! A matter of time and he would die. The doctors were just waiting for his heart to stop. As with any brief text, it appeared unemotional and matter of factly. But it was devastating to our community of faith. We prayed harder hoping for a miracle. Bro. Willie died anyway despite our prayers. There was no miracle for Bro. Willie but a miracle happened nonetheless, to all of us. We felt sad but we kept our faith. There was no anger despite not getting what we prayed for and abided fully with God's will.

I mused on Bro. Willie's death, marveled at what modern medicine knows much about dying. It has all kinds of sensors to monitor a patient's condition. It monitors the heart rate, the oxygen saturation, brain waves, and many other bodily functions. When someone is dying, it is no longer a question of "if," but a question of "when." It knows when it is just a matter of time.

As much as modern medicine knows about dying, it knows much about living as well, from the moment of conception through the span of our earthly existence. It knows about the progress of pregnancy, birth, growing up and growing old. However, there is one area that we, as people of faith, know that modern medicine does not and cannot know. It does not know what happens after our body dies. But, we know. Why do we know? Because our Lord Jesus tells us. He says "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me even if he dies, will live. If he dies and believes in me, he will never die again." We know because we believe.

Jesus does not only tell us about life after death. He shows us glimpses of what to expect when we move on from our earthly dimension to a higher dimension in the love of God. He shows us glimpses of what to expect through His teachings, through His Transfiguration, through His Resurrection. While modern medicine tells us about the beginning and the end of life, Jesus tells us about eternity. He invites us all the time to keep the faith and believe in the Gospel. As long as we do, ours will be the kingdom of heaven.

Written by: Deacon Noe Tuason