

Fly with safety and confidence



Hello! Today we are flying together. Did you know that we are privileged? Only 5% of the world's population has the chance to fly in an airplane, and today we are a part of this small number. Today, like every day, around 200,000 flights are being operated around the world, and in this moment around 3 million passengers are with us in the air. 1 in 5 people has a form of aviophobia (fear of flight in an airplane). Some never even dare to board a plane. I think that you, like myself, are free from this fear. According to statistics, the likelihood of dying in an air accident is smaller than that of being struck by lightning or hit by an asteroid. The chances of dying in a plane crash are 1 in 4.7 million, with most incidents in America, followed by Russia and then Brazil. Between 43% and 54% of pilots who participated in a survey in the UK, Norway, and Sweden admitted to having fallen asleep during flight at some point, and 1/3 of them woke up to find the co-pilot also sleeping. Still, the risk of dying in an air accident is the smallest. In America, only 1 in 11 million travelers lose their life during air travel, while in automobile accidents the rate of death is 1 in 5,000 people. What's more, toxic substances eliminated from airplanes kill more people than flight accidents. Approximately 10,000 people die every year because of toxic pollutants coming from airplanes. With the exception of the elevator, the airplane is the safest mode of transportation. Even so, death can come for other reasons, at any time and in any place. No one knows when their time of death will come, but it's important for each person to be well-prepared for this moment.

How can you prepare? You can be sure that your house is put in order, that you leave a good name behind, and that your wife and children (if you're married) won't be left with worries. There is something even more important, though. At the time of physical death, the body will cease to work and will begin to decompose, because God made man

from the dust of the earth, and he will return to dust through decomposure. However, the soul will remain, being eternal and not changing from one form to another. This soul can enter the Kingdom of God to have fellowship with Him, Christ and his saints, or to Hades where it will wait in agony for the great day of Judgement before the Throne of God, after which it will be thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone – a place of eternal suffering. Why is that?

Did you know that the presence of mercury is strictly forbidden on board an airplane? This liquid metal destroys the aluminum from which airplanes are made. In the exact same way, there is an element in man's life that completely destroys, and that is sin. After the fall into sin of the first humans, Adam and Eve, sin passed on to all people, including you and me. Because of sin we are subject to death, relationships between people were gravely affected, and in the end, if we don't resolve the problem of sin, we will end up in the eternal suffering of hell.

Did you know the the airplane's black box is actually orange? That box stores flight information and all conversations between the pilots, and when an accident takes place, the black box provides necessary evidence in court. In the exact same way, God has registered all the deeds, words, and thoughts of every man. God showed the apostle John how the judgement of mankind will take place, and this is how he described what he saw: **"Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to**

their deeds. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire." (REVELATION 20:11-15)

So, for every man there is a book in which are written all of his deeds and according to which he will be judged. There is a book for me, a book for you, and one for each of those who are flying with us in this airplane today, but also for those on other planes, those who wait in airports, and those who remained at home. My book was nullified, and I will no longer be present at that judgement, because I believed in the Lord Jesus Christ and through His sacrifice I received total forgiveness, just like all of His other disciples throughout the world who chose to follow Him.

Research shows that most instances of love at first sight take place on airplanes when passengers fall in love with flight attendants. It's even possible that this could happen to you. If you are already married, be careful to follow the advice of the wise man Solomon who said: **"Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life."** (PROVERBS 4:23) Guard your marriage with all honor and don't allow your marriage bed to be defiled, because God will judge adulterers. Did you know that you are the object of the most superior and most beautiful form of love that exists? The Bible's golden verse says it like this: **"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."** (JOHN 3:16) Jesus Christ is the Son of God who was sent from the Father to bring us knowledge and the only true teaching through which we can receive forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life. He died for our sins and now, through faith in him, we can become children of God.

In order to be saved from everlasting death and to

have eternal fellowship with God in His Kingdom, you must believe in Christ and from this day forward follow His teaching as it is written in the Bible.

Did you pay attention when the flight attendant explained what we should do in case of an accident? Did you see where the nearest emergency exit is located? If not, look around now, because most air incidents happen during takeoff and landing, and if a fire is started, the only ones who will survive are those who make it out of the plane in the first 90 seconds. If you head toward any exit other than the one meant for you, there's a chance you won't get out alive. Look around and make sure you will be able to get out in time. Physical death can come at any time and for many reasons. I know of a young man who at 26 years old showed no sign of any health problems, but while sitting on a chair, he began bleeding from his ears and nose and suddenly fell over dead. He was not prepared to leave this life. The apostle Paul once said this to the Athenians: **"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."** (ACTS 17:30-31) Repentance is a change of thought and attitude that involves turning to God with your whole heart. Without repentance, no one can receive forgiveness and the gift of eternal life. I invite you to repent and become a disciple of Jesus Christ so that you can inherit eternal life.

If you've made this decision, pray and tell God. If you don't know how to pray, follow this model: "Our Father in Heaven, thank You for loving me, and thank You that in Your mercy You allowed me to know salvation. Thank You for Your Son Jesus Christ who died for my sins and was raised from the dead so that I can have eternal life. Please forgive me for my sins and give me Your Holy Spirit so that I can inherit

eternal life. Help me to understand Your Word and to live a holy life so that I can grow spiritually and serve You with my spiritual gifts. I praise You for the salvation You have given me and I thank You in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!"

If you have made a firm commitment to follow God, you can know that, as He promised, He has given you His Holy Spirit so that you can live a righteous life. Here are the first few especially important things that you should do systematically so that you can grow in faith:

- 1.** Read the entire Bible. If you've never read it before, read the New Testament first and then the Old Testament. Whenever you have questions, search for the answers on the website www.moldovacrestina.md/en/ or write to contact@moldovacrestina.md
- 2.** Study the Bible. Reading and studying are two different things. Reading is only a part of studying. Begin to study the Bible systematically so that you can live a righteous life. I highly recommend you to study the Bible inductively. The best bible study materials you will find at www.precept.org. If you ask me now, I will tell you more about the Bible and how to study it.
- 3.** Search in your area for a growing church where people go with a sincere desire to be disciples of Jesus Christ, and where the pastor gives healthy teaching from the Bible and lives according to that teaching. If you live in Chisinau, I invite you to join **Biserica Bunavestirea (Good News Church)** where I am the pastor. If you ever visit our city, I invite you to the services that take place every Sunday at 14:00, Tuesday at 18:00, and Thursday at 17:30. Our address is **str. Ciocarliei 2/8, Chisinau**. The telephone number is **+(373)69966779**

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