



# NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

*“We should plan and enjoy every day as if we will live forever here but be prepared for the unexpected and unavoidable arrival that will take us to the life beyond.”*

## Unexpected Arrivals

*When I was growing up, my parents had a pop up camper. On weekends, we would go camping. One weekend, we arrived at a National Park and found that it was full. (At that time, you could not make reservations.) I remember my father going to a phone booth and started calling round other campgrounds or even a hotel but all were filled. He then remembered that a Navy buddy lived nearby. He called him up, explained the situation and asked if we could camp in his driveway. By this time it was dark, so they invited us kids to sleep on the floor in their kids’ room. When my mother was laying out our sleeping bags on the floor, she saw dust bunnies under their bed. You would have thought it was the end of the world. My Mother could not believe someone would have dust under their bed. My mother was a perfectionist when it came to keeping a house clean and neat. She was always prepared for unexpected arrivals.*

*The [Bennett’s](#) in Durham, NC really had an unexpected arrival on April 17, 1865. Eight days before, General Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Court House. But this did not officially end the war in the deep South. General Johnston, commander of the Army of Tennessee, asked to meet with General Sherman to discuss terms even though the Confederate President wanted him to continue fighting. The two generals found each other near the Bennett’s farm. Nancy Bennett answered the door and she was asked if the Generals could meet in her home. It is not recorded what she said but I read that she left the generals standing outside until she made her house presentable. The last major ending of the Civil War waited for her. She then offered them buttermilk and they used her home three times more. Today, [Bennett’s Place](#) is a historic site. Yes, her house is clean for the thousands of unexpected arrivals.)*

*Someday all of us will have one of two unexpected arrivals. It will be the angel of death or the second coming of our Lord. In either case, we will not have the time to tidy our things, put our makeup on, or clean up our life. They will not wait. Are you living ready?*

*“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” Heb 9:27  
“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.” 1Thess 5:2*



Bennett’s unexpected arrivals.

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*“But of that day and hour knows no man, not the angels in heaven, but my Father only.” Matt 24:36*



Our unexpected arrivals

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