



## UNCERTAINTY OF THE FUTURE

Marian Baltazar  
Class of 1980, University of the Philippines College of Manila  
AB Political Science

We always come into the realization that life is too short and fleeting and even when we manage to survive daily, we are still faced with the uncertainty of the future as a reality. Aually, people worry about a lot of things. We worry about the past, the present and most especially about the future, that is of what lies in store for us. We always worry of what the people will think of us, if we are successful, or what will happen to us. We keep on thinking to the extent of worrying about the things that have the probability of never happening, and still worry of what will ever happen to our future.

We all will agree that the very reason why people worry about the future is simply due to the uncertainty that the future holds. Within the period of the framework and the context of time, as we come into that knowledge, tomorrow is a period which is close at hand. And yet none of us knows how it will begin, progress or end. We cannot even begin to imagine what incident will occur, whether health or sickness, safety or danger, joy or sorrow. It can actually be a day of unexcelled happiness or of an unexcelled agony of spirit.

Tomorrow may be filled with all that can bless us but despite the preparations for the dangers that may arise, still holds our inability to control and hold the future. Yes, the inability to control the future is what makes us worry about the future. The control that we have in our life to protect us from danger or any kind of harm and the ability to decide as to what route are we threading in life also make us worry about the future. Our life is like a stage, we act it out, play our roles, be it good or evil, then take our final bow, retire and seen no more. Nobody is ever exempted of this, for we are all bound to face our Creator even how feeble the apparent impression it makes on our hearts and lives.

What then is the solution to all these worries and anxieties? To overcome it is to live one day at a time. Instead of worrying of what to come and what has already transpired, why don't we treasure the time that we all have at hand? Bear in mind that no one can ever predict the future for our lives are contingent to the will of God. In His infinite wisdom, His decisions are perfect, holy for God and God alone, the Governor of the universe, is the only one who can decide whatever condition we are to be in and whatever the tenure of our life is.

Let us all then inculcate in our mind that we are just pilgrims here on earth and that this world is not our resting place. Let us then make our daily desire and unswerving purpose to glorify God in our life. Even though the future is uncertain, the great consolation of God's people is that even amidst all the mutations of the earth, the word of our Lord abides forever and that we could rely on His promises. Who may ever know of what the future lies ahead of us, for we are uncertain of it. Life's uncertainty is also the uncertainty of the future.

Questions for discussion:

1. How do you view the future? Are you certain of your plans? Explain your answer.
2. Do you believe that we are uncertain of our future and that we cannot carry out the way we plan our lives to be? Elaborate on your answer.
3. What then is the best way to combat the uncertainty of the future? How do we do it?
4. Have you always thought of what tomorrow may bring you? Justify your answer.
5. How does uncertainty of the future affect us?