

Chapter Twelve: What Futures Hold

Laevious is brought back to a place that he so desperately wanted to get away from. “My Lord, why have You brought me back to this place? I don’t want to live this pain again!” “Laevious, I have not brought you back to hurt you, I have brought you back so that you may understand. Go to her, I want you to see.” With that Laevious walks towards Samantha’s bed to see the familiar scene of Amber sitting next to the bed and Doug kneeling next to her speaking comforting words. “Laevious, in a few moments Samantha will pass away and I know that your heart hurts to relive this scene, but I want you to see something that only I have seen.” The scene changes before Laevious and He is standing in a foreign land watching as Amber and Doug speak to Dr. Hamid Laban.

“Doctor Laban, we have tried everything to help our daughter to get well, is there anything else that you can do?” asks Doug as he holds Ambers hand. “Sir, we have done all that we could, but to continue such experimental treatments could severally weaken your daughters already weakened immune system. I recommend that you take her home and allow her to live out her life in great peace and joy.” replies Dr. Laban. “But Doctor, there is no where else to go for treatment! How can we help her to be happy and joyful in such pain?” asks Amber as tears start to fill her eyes. “Madam, I am sorry, but there is no more we can do, I am truly sorry!” speaks Dr. Laban as he reaches his hand to Ambers shoulder in comfort. Laevious looks at Samantha and sees that she has gotten a little older. Her hair is now very short and her face has become hollow. “Lord, how much time has passed since that last hospital she was at?” questions Laevious. “Laevious, Samantha has aged five years now and she has visited many Doctors to receive her healing. This sickness has taken a toll upon her fragile life, but her parent desperate attempts to keep her alive till they find a cure has weakened her immensely.” “But Lord, You are the true healer and if you desired You could heal her.” replies Laevious. “Yes Laevious I can, but you must see more to understand.” With that Laevious is moved to a college dorm that Samantha is attending in her freshman year.

“Lord, she looks well and happy!” says Laevious with surprise in his voice. “Yes Laevious this is what would have been if she never had her disease” replies the Lord. Laevious watches as Samantha is packing to go on a trip, her roommate starts to speak; “Oh, Samantha, are you sure you want to do this? I mean, it is a scary place you are going to! No one has really been there and you don’t know what terrible this are there!” “Don’t be silly Karen; replies Samantha, I’ll be just fine!” The scene changes again and Laevious is taken to the rain forests of the Amazon. He watches as Samantha is making her way through the thick of the brush to capture on film the wild birds of the forest. As Laevious watches Samantha does not look well. She is coughing, her eyes look hollow, and she has lost a lot of weight. “Lord, is she alright?” questions Laevious as he follows her closely to get a better look at her face. At that moment Samantha collapses to the ground unconscious and no one is near her to

see. “Why is she alone? Where are those who should be helping her?” cries out Laevius when he hears the sound of footsteps breaking through the brush behind him.

“SAMANTHA!” cries out the voice of Matthew Perks, a fellow college student.

“SAMANTHA!” he screams out again as Laevius watches. Matthew runs to Samantha and takes her in his arms; he reaches in his pack to pull out a radio to contact the camp sight.

“BEN, BEN, LISTEN!!!” Screams Matthew into the radio. “Something has happened to Samantha, come quickly and bring help!” Matthew sits with Samantha’s head in his lap.

“Hold on Samantha, help is on the way!” speaks Matthew as the scene changes and Laevius is taken to a near by make shift medical facility for the native people of the rain forest.

Laevius watches as Samantha is laying on a bed and Doctor Carl Hinn address Matthew and Ben about Samantha’s condition. “Samantha is not well at all; she must leave her and get back to the mainland for treatment right away!” “What’s wrong Doctor? Can’t you treat her with something now?” “I am sorry, but Samantha has contracted Rabies from an infected creature, most likely a bat. It has affected her immune system and nervous system as well, and if not treated immediately she will die. I have contacted the American Red Cross and they are on their way to take her back to the states.” Laevius is beside himself! What a fate Samantha has to face in her short life! “GOD; How can this be?” screams Laevius as he looks to the heavens. The scene changes and Laevius is back in the states and Samantha is laying in a hospital bed with a life support system attached to her body. Amber and Doug stand beside her bed as Doctor Brian Cole tells them the news. “Your daughter was brought in yesterday through the Red Cross, she has contracted a deadly virus contracted by a vampire bat. Apparently she went out on her own one night to take pictures of creatures of the night and one of them must have bitten her. We have given her antibiotic to slow the venoms progress, but we won’t know if it will take until a later time from now.” Laevius is beside himself, a fate worst then death! “If the antibiotics work, what will be her life then?” questions Doug. “If the antibiotics take she will live, but the damage to her immune system and her nervous system will have already been done. She will live a life almost in a vegetated state.” Ambers starts to cry; “how can this be? She has faced so much already, why this also?” questions Amber out loud. Laevius looks upon Samantha and a heart of compassion welts up inside of him. “Is there anything you can do Lord? Will you not allow this one to be healed?” “Laevius, I love this child as you do and my heart hurts with her parents and you. But you are seeing what would be if I allowed her to receive a healing. The choices that Samantha makes in her future brings upon her life sorrow, not only for her but for those around her also.” “I see, Your love for her had caused you to have compassion on her future.” “Yes Laevius, you are starting to understand.” And with that that scene changes, Laevius stands in the alley where a man is dead and a woman is being attended to be two strangers.

“Laevius you do recall this night?” asks God. “Yes Lord, I remember it well. This is the night that I took the life of the man and gave life back to the woman who had died.” “Yes Laevius, you have remembered well, but I understand your heart. This night was a turning point for both of them. I want you to see what became of the woman that you gave life to.” The scene changes and Laevius is standing in a dark room surrounded by many who sit

against the walls in an attempt to stay out of the sun. As he looks around he sees the woman that he gave life to, she is in the corner shaking from the cold of the night and is among others doing the same. “Her name is Jody Laevieus, and it has been five years since you last saw her in the alley.” Laevieus watches as the people around her are passing around what looks like a needle. He watches as the take turns poking themselves and filling their blood stream with a liquid drug. “Lord, has she always been a drug addict?” asks Laevieus. “No Laevieus, she became on not long after that event in the alley. Jody’s life has always been hard for her; abandoned to the streets at fifteen she tried to make her own way by selling drugs and herself for food and shelter.” “She does not look well Lord, is she sick?” asks Laevieus. “Yes Laevieus, she is very sick and when she found out she was HIV positive, she lost all hope to live. She blames many for her dismay and in a heart of revenge she passes her sickness on to many.” “Could she not get help for her sickness?” “She cannot afford it and no family members want to help her either. She is lost, but you must look around, what do you see in the midst of the people?” asks God. As Laevieus looks he sees two familiar spirits lurking near Jody and her friends. It is Dustrim and Tomta! The two workers of Satan, who have come to destroy many through this one woman, “Lord, will you not stop them?” “Laevieus I tried, but you interfered. You gave life without understanding and took life without regret.” “What have I done Lord? How could I have been so blind to your truth and judgment? I have been a fool, I have forsaken your will to live my own and have caused many to perish unjustly!”

And from the midst of the people a voice speaks out; “Yes Laevieus, we see you also! You gave our lord power, you have weakened the hold of God and made a way for us to interfere in the lives of the living.” speaks Tomta with a shrieking laugh. “Lord, I have done wrong, I have done You wrong!” cries out Laevieus with a heavy heart. With that the scene changes and Laevieus is standing in the middle of a church service. But it is not a church; he is standing in the center of the Midway Correction Facility Recreation Room. Everyone is dressed in gray and orange and is standing on their feet with hands raised to heaven praising God! As the music plays the voice of one speaking from the front of the stage echoes through the building. Laevieus looks and it is the man whose life he had taken in the alley. “Lord, what is this? Did this man live? asks Laevieus. “This is the life of the man if he had lived Laevieus. This man was sentenced to life in prison, but instead of living in sorrow he has found light and life in a dark place. This man will become one of the greatest preachers the world will ever hear. This man, though he can never leave his chains delivers message of hope, freedom, and love all over the world! Many will find the door of heaven because of his one act of violence.” Lord, I see. Your knowledge is far beyond my comprehension and I know now that all your judgments and ways are right and good for all man kind.” With that the scene changes and Laevieus is taken back tot the hospital room of Samantha where she has just been pronounced dead.