

MOMENT

A moment is a short period of time, but it can be a special or unique occasion just the same. Jokingly, a person may say, “I’m having a senior moment”, coinciding with forgetfulness or a delayed reaction. A child that is pitching a temper tantrum may be described by his mother as having *one of his moments*; but if the mother is the one having the moment, I suppose the child just has to contend with it.

A lot of things can happen in a moment:

- 🕒 A bolt of lightning can strike
- 🕒 An accident or mishap can occur
- 🕒 A newborn baby can cry aloud for the first time
- 🕒 A natural disaster can destroy land or property
- 🕒 A thought can enter the mind
- 🕒 A word can be expressed – that may not be retractable
- 🕒 An e-mail can be sent from a young person to her father
- 🕒 A phone call be transmitted over a great distance
- 🕒 An opinion can be altered
- 🕒 A marriage proposal can be replied to
- 🕒 A heart can stop beating or a respiratory system stop breathing

Since the time period or elapsed time representing a moment is somewhat variable, a moment is a somewhat relative term. For example, a testimony from a witness might indicate that he saw the crime occur in a moment – which could be a few seconds or just a *split second*. The survivor of an accident replies that she *saw her life pass before her eyes in a moment* – which means that, in a moment, she realized the mortality of her life or the possibility that her physical life is vulnerable and could be no more.

The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank.

- Dante Gabriel Rossetti,
English painter & poet

The Bible uses the word “moment” on occasion – let’s look at few applications:

- 🕒 Job 20:5 - ...*the joy of the Godless lasts but a moment* – which means that those without God have no permanent source of joy
- 🕒 Psalms 30:5 - ...*for his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime* – referring to the Lord from David
- 🕒 Proverbs 12:19 – *Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment* – which means that in time, the lies will be refuted {or exposed} and the liar punished
- 🕒 Galatians 2:5 – *We did not give in to them for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might remain in you* - Paul replying to the Gentile believers concerning the false teaching that circumcision was necessary.

In a

WORD