



"THE GREAT EQUALIZER"
Ecclesiastes 9:1-12

INTRODUCTION

Death is the great equalizer.

1 Cor. 15:26; Heb 9:27; Rom 5:12, 6:23; Heb 2:14-15; 2 Tim 1:10; Rev 21:4

FOUR FACTS WE CAN LEARN ABOUT LIFE FROM DEATH

1. DEATH ESTABLISHES THE FACT OF GOD'S CONTROL AND OUR ACCOUNTABILITY TO HIM - 1-3

- Death **REMINDS** the believer of his dependence upon God - 1

Job 1:20-22; John 10:27-29; Deut. 33:3, 27; Isa. 62:3

- Death **REINFORCES** the truth that God is no respecter of persons - 2

Romans 2:11

- Death **REVEALS** we cannot escape God's judgment for our sin - 3

Jeremiah 17:9; Gen. 6:5

2. DEATH EXPLAINS THE MEANING OF HOPE - 4-6

- Death **ELIMINATES** any advantage you may think you have

Ecclesiastes 4:1-3

- Death **EXTINGUISHES** any opportunity we now have - 5-6

Ecc. 12:7

3. DEATH ENCOURAGES US TO ENJOY WHAT GOD GIVES TO US - 7-10

- It is REALIZED in our response to daily activities – 7

- It is REFLECTED in our appearance - 8

Isa. 61:1-3

- It is REVEALED in our marriage - 9

Proverbs 5:18

- It is RECOGNIZED in how we work - 10

Col. 3:23-25

4. DEATH ELIMINATES ANY PRIDE OR SELF-CONFIDENCE - 11-12

- This is true because our abilities cannot affect the outcome - 11

- This is true because we do not know when death will happen - 12

James 4:13–17 ¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”—¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” ¹⁶ As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷ So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.