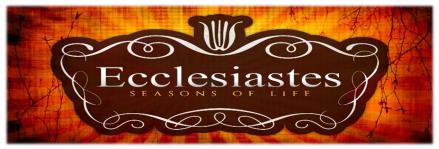
Wednesday Evening Bible Study Ecclesiastes Series 05/13/2020 Stephen H. Converse Lesson #15



"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 <u>ESTABLISHES</u> THE FACT OF GOD'S CONTROL AND OUR ACCOUNTABILITY TO HIM - 1-3

• Death <u>**REMINDS**</u> the believer of his dependence upon God - 1 Job 1:20-22; John 10:27-29; Deut. 33:3, 27; Isa. 62:3

• Death <u>**REINFORCES**</u> the truth that God is no respecter of persons - 2 Romans 2:11

• Death <u>**REVEALS**</u> 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 <u>ELIMINATES</u> any advantage you may think you have Ecclesiastes 4:1-3

• Death <u>EXTINGUISHES</u> 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 <u>**REVEALED</u>** in our marriage - 9 *Proverbs 5:18*</u>

• It is **<u>RECOGNIZED</u>** 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.