

LIVING IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

The Passage of Time

There is a time for all things

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:" (Ec 3:1)

· God has made everything beautiful in its own time

"He has made everything beautiful in its time." (Ec 3:11a)

God has place eternity in our hearts

Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end." (Ec 3:11b)

The Big Picture

God is eternal

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!" For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. (Ps 90:1-4)

Man is temporal

You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. (Ps 90:4-6)

So, we must number our days

"So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." (Ps 90:12)

Two Guiding Principles

The fear of the Lord

"Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?" (Ps 90:11)

"Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you." (Ex 32:10) (Also Ex 32:1-10)

The love of God

"Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days." (Ps 90:14)

"Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend." (Ex 33:11a) (Also Ex 33:7-11)

The Fear and the Love

We must give an account of ourselves to God.

"For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." So then each of us will give an account of himself to God." (Ro 14:10b-12)

 The Cross of Christ reminds us of God's holiness, His love, and forgiveness.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." (Jn 3:16-17)

The Judgement Seat of Christ

We all are accountible to God.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil." (2 Cor 5:10)

What is the "bema seat"?

The late Dr. Joe Wall explains 2 Cor 5:10

Lessons from "the bema seat"

We make it our aim to please Him.

"So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him." (1 Cor 5:9)

Knowing the fear of the Lord we persuade others

"Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others." (2 Cor 5:11a)

We no longer live for self, but for Christ.

"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised." (2 Cor 5:14-15)

The Ten Minas

He said therefore, "A nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and then return. Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Engage in business until I come.' (Luke 19:12-13)

When he returned, having received the kingdom, he ordered these servants to whom he had given the money to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by doing business. (Luke 19:15)

- Each person has one life to live.
- The Lord expects a return on His investment
- Those who invest well receive a commendation
- The Master is displeased with those who make no investment.



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