**Teach us to Number Our Days**

Psalm 90:12

“Teach us to number our days aright that we may gain a heart of wisdom” (NIV)

“Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.” (NLT)



Dr. Leslie Weatherhead (An English theologian) calculated the average length of a life using hours of one day to illustrate the importance of recognizing the value of time. He concluded that if your age is 15, the time is 10:25a.m. If your age is 20, the time is 11:34. If your age is 25, the time is 12:42. If you are 30, the time is 1:51. If you are 35, the time is 3:00. If you are 40, the time is 4:08. At age 45, the time is 5:15. If you are 50, the time is 6:25. By 55, the time is 7:24. If you are 60, the time is 8:42. If you are 65, the time is 9:51. If you are 70, the time is 11 p.m.

What “time” is it for you?

**Psalm 90**

This is the only psalm that was written by Moses. Remember that Moses is the only one whom the Lord has ever spoken “face to face as a man speaks with his friend.” (See Numbers 12:7-8)

This song urges us to consider the wrath of God (see vs. 7-11) that righteously should be poured out on our sin. Mankind deserves this just punishment for sin, the eternal separation from God. But by His mercy and grace He has made a way for us to escape this wrath. See Eph. 2:8-9

But it also gives us a perspective on time.

The SPAN of time: It starts with the awareness that God is “from everlasting to everlasting.” (see vs.2)

Ps. 145:13 “Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom and thy dominion endures throughout all generations.”

Rev. 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega says the Lord, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

The SENSE of time: a thousand years are like a day (vs. 4). See II Peter 3:8

And then Moses urges us to consider our own mortality. He asks us to “number our days” which is another way of noticing the brevity of life. (see vs. 10-12). In James 4, Jesus’ half-brother urges us to consider our lives as a “vapor that appears for a while and then vanishes away.”

The last three years, the longevity of life for U.S. citizens has declined. Currently a woman can expect to live 81.2 years and a man 76.4 years.

***Let’s do a little math….81-70 = 11 years X 365 days = 4015 days “left” for Sherry***

Notice that God asks us to number our days, not our years. We are supposed to be living in one day compartments. “Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” (Mt. 6:34)

**So What?**

1. As we “number our days,” we will learn to ignore the world’s perspective: “Carpe Diem”

The Roman poet, Horace coined this phrase. It literally means to “pluck the day.” It has come to mean “seize the day” by living lavishly for the moment.

But consider the rich man in Luke 12:19-21.

Driven for MORE of EVERYTHING.

Focused on temporal pleasures of today.

Only concerned about himself.

God calls him a fool.

1. As we “number our days,” we will learn to make the most of every opportunity to do good and please the Lord. See Col. 4:5-6 and Eph. 5:15-16
2. As we “number our days,” we will learn to cherish TODAY and not boast about TOMORROW. See James 4:13-16
3. As we “number our days,” we will gain a heart of wisdom.

“Wisdom”- rooted in the fear of God, wisdom allows us to apply the truths of God’s Word to the circumstances and relationships of our lives.

The mouth of the righteous utter wisdom (Ps. 37:30). Wisdom will protect you (Prov. 4:6). If you lack wisdom, ask of God (James 1:5).

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