

Magnanakaw Magnanakaw!

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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Death is like a thief in the night (Mt. 24:42-43); it comes unexpectedly. We need to repent; accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior; and ask forgiveness for the times we have wasted piling up treasures on earth. When we look upon death from a distance, we are tempted to delay necessary preparations. But when we consider how short life is, the inevitability of death, and the reality of the afterlife, we concern ourselves with our life goals and achievements.

The Truth about Life and Death:

Time runs so fast. we are all preparing for the afterlife of eternal recompense or retribution (Wis. 4:7-8).

- a. **Certainty of Death** (Ecc. 3:1-2)
The Lord has already determined and decreed our number of months on earth; we cannot exceed whatever God has said (Job 14:5).
- b. **Value of Confronting Death**
The more we confront our impending death, the more likely we will use our time more wisely (Mt. 6:33).
- c. **The life we have here on earth is probationary** (Ps. 90:10).
- d. **Death holds no terror for believers**
To the godless, death is the end of all joy; to a godly person it is the end of all grief (Rev 7:13-17).

How We Must Live Our Lives:

1. **The brevity/frailty of life** (Jm. 4:14, Ps. 39:5-8, Jn. 10:10)
Life is short; we must live it. Everything that we have comes from the Lord. We must live in accordance with God's will and ways. Let us savor the privileges of living day by day.
2. **Value of Time** – When we were children, time crept; in our youth, time walked; in our senior years, time flies until it's gone. We take our health for granted. We must

not exchange our health for money. Life is important (Mt. 6:19-21).

Three Directions to maximize our lives:

- 2.1 Do not dwell on the past; let go.
- 2.2 It is a mistake to live in the future as it is unknown; we are not trusting God enough (Mt. 6:25-34).
- 2.3 We must live in the present and create maximum impact.

3. **Prioritize for best life**

3.1 Make the most of your time

Let us prioritize and give time for God above all else (Mt. 22:37-39, Eph 5:15-17). The greatest enemy is not death – it is life un-lived.

3.2 The final call

Death is inescapable. Let us not be like the rich fool who piled up treasures on earth only to die without enjoying the fruit of his labor (Lk. 12:13-21).

3.3 Final destination

Our final destination is either in hell (Mt. 13:42) or in heaven (Job 33:24, Jn 14:1-5, Rev. 7:9-15), just like the story of the rich man and Lazarus (Lk. 16:19-31).

We should keep in mind that life here on earth is very brief. Let us not waste our time thinking about the future. We can change our future by merely changing our attitude towards the past. God says forget the former things, do not dwell on the past (Phil. 3:13-14). Rather, we must live in the present.

Reflection: What will you do if you knew you had a couple of days left to live?

Lord, may you give us length of days and for all of us to spend the rest of our lives right beside You (Ps. 112:1-3).

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