

Sunrise and Sunset

Sunday, August 25, 2019
Mike Miller
Straight Paths Bible Church

Ecc 1:5 The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose.

- I. Life is made up of different seasons and times.
 - A. There is a time of beginning; morning; freshness.
 - 1. All is before you and you expect only the best to happen.
 - 2. Your future is bright and full of good things.
 - B. Those who realize and learn early on that life consists of season are able to enjoy and make the most of life.
 - C. We are given our life one day at a time – the sun rises and the sun sets every day of our life.

Psalm 118:24 This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

- 1. Every day of our life is a reminder from God about what life is about.
- 2. Every day we die (sleep) and every morning we are resurrected (wake up)
- 3. Day and night are like the tick-tock of a clock, marking time as it passes.

- II. Time is precious, so we need to learn to redeem it.

Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

Eph 5:16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

- A. The sun is a constant reminder that time is continually passing – like the sun, time never stands still.
- B. You cannot stop it or even slow it down – so make the most of it as it passes.
- C. When it is morning – enjoy the morning, and be content with the morning.
- D. When it is day – enjoy the day, and do the work that life requires that you do, and be content.
- E. When it is evening – enjoy the evening, and be content and thankful for the close of day.
- F. Be content – in whatsoever state you are in.
- G. Whatever season of life you are in, be content and enjoy the blessings of that season.
 - 1. There are blessings in every season, so we need to focus on them and not be longing for another season.

Phil 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

- H. Many people wish their life away by always wanting time to pass faster because they aren't satisfied where they are.

1 Tim 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

- III. Since time is continually passing there is no need to despair of present circumstances – they will change.

A. Every day is a new day.

...and hasteth to his place where he arose.

1. While you sit in darkness a new day is being prepared for you.
2. No matter how long the night may seem the morning is coming.
3. And time always passes faster than you think it is going to.

Psa 30:5 ... weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

- B. The sun will rise again ...and again and again.
- C. The sun will set again ...and again and again.
- D. The seasons will change ...and change again and again.
- E. Although we look at the beginning of a thing as the best, God tells us differently:

Eccl 7:8 Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof:

1. That is ...when God has accomplished his purposes.
 2. When the harvest is brought in.
 3. We mourn the end of thing and rejoice at the beginning – just the opposite of what God tells us we should do.
 4. We rejoice at the birth of a new baby who is facing life full of trouble in a sinful world, and weep at the death of a loved one, who we are sure went to heaven where there is no pain, sorrow, sickness, or weeping.
- F. Time is not a human construct, as I read somewhere the other day – it is a fact of life.
1. And we would do well to take it into account as early in our life as we can.
 2. Sometimes time is our friend and sometimes time seems to be our foe.
 3. But wherever we are in our life right now we should be thankful for time and the fact that it never stops moving and taking us with it.