

Life Is Too Short

Gen. 47:9

Introduction:

A. How often have we said, "Life is just too short."

1. Jacob looked back at his 130 years as "few."
2. Job 14:1-2; Ps 90:10
2. James compares it to a "vapor" or "mist" (Jas. 4:14)

B. Maybe we should ask, "Life is too short for what?"

Discussion:

I. Life Is Too Short for Wasting.

- A. It is important to properly use time (Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5; John 9:4)
1. Good stewardship pertains to more than possessions – it involves time.
 2. May recover lost or wasted possessions, not so with time.

B. Life and time are too precious to waste on:

1. Ungodly living (1 Pet. 4:1-5)
2. Idleness / freeloading (2 Thess. 3:6-14)
3. Brooding in anger, malice and strife (Eph. 4:31-32)
4. Efforts to "get even" (1 Pet. 3:9)

II. Life is Too Short for Short-sightedness.

- A. Life is too short to have no goal beyond this life (Luke 12:20)
- B. A failure to grow spiritually is to be short sighted (2 Pet. 1:9)
- C. Life is too short to think only "here and now" and "me and mine."

III. Life is Too Short for Mediocrity.

- A. "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might" (Eccl. 9:9-10)
1. Life is too short to settle for mediocre service.
 2. "Any job worth doing is worth doing right"
- B. Can one really settle for being a mediocre Christian?
1. Our love for God must be wholehearted (Matt. 22:37)
 2. Our service to God must be with diligence (Rom. 12:11)
 3. Our attitude cannot be "what is enough to get me by?" (2 Pet. 1:8; 1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Cor. 9:6)

V. Life is Too Short for Procrastination.

- A. Tomorrow is too uncertain for procrastination (Jas. 4:13-14).
1. Need to understand what is put off may not get done.
 2. Only put off things of little consequence if not done.

"Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone"

— Pablo Picasso

B. Some things are too important to put off and risk their not being done.

1. Obedience to the gospel (cf. Acts 8:36-38; 16:33)
2. Reconciliation to a brother (Matt. 5:24)
3. Repentance

"God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but He has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination."

— St. Augustine of Hippo

Conclusion:

- A. Yes, life is too short to waste on useless and destructive matters.
- B. It is too short to put off really important matters toward God and other people.