

GOD'S WISDOM: TURNING TRIALS INTO TREASURE Part 2

Ecclesiastes 7:1-4

The saving, spiritual knowledge of God in your heart fosters the character of God in your life. In other words, you are what you think.

The <u>antithesis</u> is also true and so very dangerous — the *lack* of a saving, spiritual knowledge of God leaves your soul spiritually bankrupt and your life empty.

mataioteti = useless, purposeless, worthless, or vain.

"...bound up in thinking and acting in an arena of ultimate <u>trivia</u>. He consumes himself in the pursuit of goals that are purely selfish, in the accumulation of that which is temporary, and in looking for satisfaction in that which is intrinsically deceptive and disappointing." (John MacArthur)

"For who knows what is good for a man during his lifetime, during the few years of his <u>futile</u> life." (Ecc. 6:12)

Ecclesiastes 7:1-4

Let's take this as a whole and sum up what we are facing.

There are limitations we face in life and we constantly push against them.

"Your life won't go on forever. But death is not just a line you cross when your time is up. 'Death is an evangelist.' He looks us in the eye and he asks us to look him right back with a steady gaze and allow him to do his work in us. He wants to teach us that the day of our coming death can be a friend to us in advance. The very limitation that death introduces into our life can instruct us about life. Think of it as death's helping hand." (David Gibson)

Your death is a better teacher and revealer about the <u>real</u> you than your birth.

A life lived by <u>faith</u> in Christ, measured by His <u>wisdom</u>, and applied in His <u>love</u>, is a life lived in the <u>certainty</u> of heaven gained, your highest hopes met and <u>exceeded</u>, and the complete fulfilment of a <u>secure</u> eternity with treasures beyond your comprehension.

<u>house of mourning</u> = a place where someone has died.

Then why are so many Christians feeling so empty and discouraged in their lives?

One basic reason prevails: because they are not learning to think, say, and do all for the reason of pleasing Jesus Christ.

"Therefore there is <u>now</u> no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." (Rom. 8:1)

"For you have died and <u>your life</u> is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is <u>our life</u>, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory." (Col. 3:3-4)

We each have our stuff to deal with.

Make the most of <u>what</u> you can <u>while</u> you can by making much of <u>Jesus</u> while you can.

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