

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

LORD, MAKE ME TO KNOW MINE END

PSALMS 39, 90:12

Text: Psalms 39:4-5, Psalms 90:12

Psalm 39:4-5

⁴ ***LORD, make me to know mine end***, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

⁵ Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah.

Introduction:

Once again we find David in a spiritual quandary. In this psalm David realizes his biggest problem is not Saul, struggles, or situations – it was himself.

David declared in verse one, “I will take heed to my ways.”

The remaining portion of the psalm chronicles David’s examination of his life.

What we discover is not a grand King in glorious array, but rather a meek and humble man who sees himself empty under the hand of God.

David refers to his days as a handbreadth. We read in Psalms 90:

Psalm 90:12

¹² So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Remember

Life is made up of years, and years are made up of days. Days are made up by hours, and hours by minutes, and minutes are made up by seconds.

The older I get the quicker the days and years pass by.

James 4:14

¹⁴ Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

We read in Psalms 90:9 that we spend our years as a tale that is told.

Psalm 90:9

⁹ For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

Notice we need to:

1. RECOGNIZE THE TIME

Psalms 90:10

¹⁰ The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

A. We are living in exciting days

There are more people alive today than have ever lived on earth at one time before.

B. We are also living in the end or the last days

Luke 17:26-30

²⁶ And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. ²⁷ They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. ²⁸ Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; ²⁹ But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

³⁰ Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

Note what we see:

As it was in the days of Noah, and the days of Lot will be when the Son of Man is revealed.

Also note:

- The Climate of the Last Days

2 Timothy 3:1

¹ This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

The last days will be dangerous days

I think it is safe to say that we can describe our own times as "perilous". What we are seeing all around us is a society on the brink of collapse! This is proven by the 18 characteristics of the last days presented by Paul in verses 2-4. You see, we are living in an age when it is dangerous for men to live for God. Those who practice righteousness are called intolerant, bigoted, narrow-minded, and anti-social and are labeled dangerous.

While those who practice deviant, sinful lifestyles are praised and labeled heroes by society. These are indeed very dangerous days!

Just yesterday Muslims blew up themselves taking the lives of several innocent people.

Not only do we consider the Climate of the Last Days but also:

B. The Characteristics of the Last Days

2 Timothy 3:2-5

² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, ⁴ Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; ⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

The last days will be days characterized by individuals that love themselves, coveters, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents.

People who are unthankful, and unholy.

People without natural affection, or sodomites, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent or without self-control, fierce or untamed, savage or brutal behavior.

People who despise those that are good, traitors, heady, high minded, who love pleasure more than they love God.

These are the characteristics of the last days and very similar to the days in which we are living.

As we “Recognize the Time” it should cause us to

2. REDEEM THE TIME

Psalm 39:4-5

⁴ LORD, ***make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is;*** that I may know how frail I am.

⁵ ***Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth;*** and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah.

Psalms 90:12

¹² ***So teach us to number our days,*** that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Ephesians 5:15-17

¹⁵ See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, ¹⁶ ***Redeeming the time,*** because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

We need to redeem the time because of:

A. The Shortness of Our Life

Remember:

James 4:14

¹⁴ Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

We have a limited number of days, and with that we have a limited opportunities to accomplish that which the Lord would have us to do.

Not only should we redeem the time because of the shortness of our life but also because of:

B. Statement of Our Life

The Christians life is a commentary - people can read us like a book.

The Christian life should be a contrast to the world - are we truly different?

2 Corinthians 6:17

¹⁷ Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

Remember our lives can become a stumbling block. We are warned about this.

1 Corinthians 8:9

⁹ But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.

Do you know just how short your life really is?

Are you aware just how serious the choices you make are?

Are you conscious about the statement your life is making?

As we “Recognize the Time” it should cause us to Redeem the Time. As we Redeem the Time as we Should that we cause us to:

3. REJOICE THROUGH TIME

Psalms 90:14

¹⁴ O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

By redeeming the time wisely we will be able to rejoice throughout our life.

Psalms 126:6

⁶ He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Romans 8:35-39

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. ³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, ³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Close:

There is a tale that is being told through our years.

May we understand how frail that we are and that hope is found in the Lord.

As we understand our frailty may that help us
Recognize the Time.

As we Recognize the Time may that motivate us to
Redeem the Time.

As we Redeem the Time wisely we will be able to
Rejoice Through Time.