

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

August 13

2017

The Days of Our Lives

In Psalm 90:10, we read, *“The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.”* Ladies and gentleman, the days of our lives are short, and here the Psalmist describes the days of our lives as being seventy to eighty years as a rule. However, to help us put in perspective just how short the days of our lives are, let’s examine some other passages of inspired Scripture. So, with that thought in mind, the Bible describes the days of our lives as being...

1) Swift.

The word swift is defined as “happening quickly or promptly,” and Job describes the days of our lives as being swift when he said, *“My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle...”* (Job 7:6). Now, a weaver’s shuttle is a tool designed to neatly and compactly store a holder that carries the thread of the weft yarn while weaving a loom. It has been said that a weaver would rapidly throw his shuttle from one side to another, therefore Job used this illustration along with the illustration of a swift runner (Job 9:25) to describe just how quickly the days of our lives pass by.

2) A Shadow.

Just as a shadow is brief and fleeting, so are the days of our lives. Folks, King David knew just that and he, while speaking to the

children of Israel said, *“Our days on earth are as a shadow...”* (1Chronicles 29:15). However, not only did David compare the brevity of life to that of a shadow, but also Bildad, one of Job’s friends, described the days of our lives as being a shadow when he said, *“For we were born yesterday, and know nothing, Because our days on earth are a shadow”* (Job 8:9). Again, the days of our lives are like a shadow, that being brief and fleeting.

3) Few Days.

In Job 14:1-2, Job says, *“Man who is born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue.”* Here, Job describes the frailty and feebleness of man, and he reminds us of the fact that man’s days are short. You see, few are the days of our lives, therefore may none of us take any of our few days for granted.

4) Like Grass.

David declared, *“As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, And its place remembers it no more”* (Psalm 103:15-16). The apostle Peter, quoting the prophet Isaiah wrote, *“All flesh is as grass, And all glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, But the word of the Lord endures forever”* (1 Peter 1:24-25). Friends, just as the grass withers and the flower fades away, so will the days of our lives.

5) Like A Shepherd’s Tent.

In Isaiah 38, we read about the days when Hezekiah, the king of Judah, was sick and near death. However, the Lord lengthened the days of Hezekiah, and while writing after recovering from his sickness, Hezekiah said, *“My life span is gone, Taken from me like a shepherd’s tent...”* (Isaiah 38:12). You see, the point is, just as a shepherd’s tent is easily and speedily removed, so are the days of our lives. For the days of our lives will likewise speedily be removed.

6) A Moment.

Paul, in writing to the saints in Corinth penned, *“Therefore we do*

not lose heart, Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory..." (2 Corinthians 4:16-17). Notice the apostle Paul informed that the affliction which we encounter while in the flesh is but for a moment. In other words, Paul says, hang in there and do not lose heart, because the physical days of our lives are just for a moment.

7) A Vapor.

James asked, "For what is your life?" He then goes on to say, "It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away" (James 4:14). You see, the days of our lives are that like a vapor. That is, as James informed, the days of our lives will be for a little time, and then they will vanish away.

Ladies and gentleman, once again, the days of our lives are brief. Therefore, do not take for granted your time on this earth, and be sure to be properly prepared for your appointment with death (Hebrews 9:27). ✍ Brad Phillips



No Fellowship With Error

John said, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another..." (1 John 1:7). He make it clear that to have fellowship we must be walking in the light. The Psalmist said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105) Fellowship with God demands our walking in the light of His word. Fellowship with others requires us both walking in the light of His word.

In recent years there has been a movement (even among brethren) to broaden our fellowship. As a result, less and less emphasis is being placed upon adherence to God's word in all things. One preacher posted this statement: "The only thing salvation was predicated on in the New Testament was whether or not one believed

that Jesus was the Son of God. Nothing that is not essential to salvation should be made a test of fellowship." If this statement is true (and its not) then the only requirement for fellowship would be that one believe Jesus to be the Son of God.

Paul said, "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." (Ephesians 5:11) Note, Paul refers to those things we are not to fellowship as "works of darkness." God's word is referred to as "light." That which is not authorized in God's word is a work of darkness and we should not fellowship those who practice such.

Jesus spoke of some who claimed to teach and act in His name (Matthew 7:21-23) but He said He never knew them and called them workers of iniquity. They believed in Jesus and called Him Lord. If that is the only thing necessary for salvation and our fellowship then we would have fellowship with those whom Jesus told to depart. Let's remember the words of John. He said, "Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God: he that abideth in the teaching, the same hath both the Father and the Son. If any one cometh unto you, and bringeth not this teaching, receive him not into your house, and give him no greeting: for he that giveth him greeting partaketh in his evil works." (2 John 9-11 ASV). ✍ James Hahn

Belleville church of Christ
 5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258
www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

James Hahn (317) 745-1507