

THE REALITY OF DEATH

*Teach us to realize the brevity of life,
so that we may grow in wisdom.*

Psalm 90:12 (NLT)

Five Foundations ...

- Life is _____ **precious** _____.

A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil.

This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?

Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can.

*And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from
God.*

Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 (NLT)

- Life is _____ **passing** _____.

Mortals, born of woman,

are of few days and full of trouble.

They spring up like flowers and wither away;

like fleeting shadows, they do not endure.

Job 14:1-2

Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

James 4:13-14

- Death is forthcoming.

By the sweat of your brow

you will eat your food

until you return to the ground,

since from it you were taken;

for dust you are

and to dust you will return.

Genesis 3:19

The Death of Death

*There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die...*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2a

- Death is sometimes sudden.

On the first day of the week, we gathered with the local believers to share in the Lord's Supper. Paul was preaching to them, and since he was leaving the next day, he kept talking until midnight. The upstairs room where we met was lighted with many flickering lamps. As Paul spoke on and on, a young man named Eutychus, sitting on the windowsill, became very drowsy. Finally, he fell sound asleep and dropped three stories to his death below.

Acts 20:7-9 (NLT)

- Death is sometimes surprising.

Then Elisha said, "Call her." So he called her, and she stood in the doorway. "About this time next year," Elisha said, "you will hold a son in your arms."

"No, my lord," she objected. "Don't mislead your servant, O man of God!"

But the woman became pregnant, and the next year about that same time she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had told her.

The child grew, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. "My head! My head!" he said to his father.

His father told a servant, "Carry him to his mother." After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died.

2 Kings 4:15-20

- Death is always sorrowful.

Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!

Ezekiel 18:31-32

When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within him, and he was deeply troubled. "Where have you put him?" he asked them.

They told him, "Lord, come and see." Then Jesus wept.

John 11:32-35 (NLT)

The Death of Death

- Death is our **foe** .

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.
1 Corinthians 15:26

The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.
Revelation 20:13-14

- Death is **not** **final** .

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

*"Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"*

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Corinthians 15:51-57

- **Jesus has died the death we deserve to die.**

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.
1 Peter 3:18

- **Jesus has conquered the enemy we cannot conquer.**

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil-- and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.
Hebrews 2:14-15