

## “WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU DIE?”

### QUESTIONS I'D LIKE TO ASK GOD-- 4

February 4, 2018

“A wise person thinks about death.”

Eccles.7:4

“Sorrow is better than laughter, for sadness has a refining influence on us.”

Eccles.7:3(NLT)

Ask yourself, “How am I looking at death?”

#### AM I LOOKING AT DEATH FROM THE DOWN SIDE?

➤ **Death is inevitable.**

“We must all die, wise and foolish alike.”

(2:16)

➤ **Death is physical.**

“Man’s fate is like that of the animals: the same fate awaits them both. As one dies, so dies the other.”

(3:19)

➤ **Death is “unsearchable”.**

“There is no way for us to know what will happen after we die.” (3:22)

➤ **Death is the end.**

“The dead know nothing ...their love, their hate, their envy all died with them, and they have no more share in all that’s done under the sun.” (9:5-6)

The look from the DOWNSIDE brings DESPAIR

#### AM I LOOKING AT DEATH FROM IN SIDE?

“He has also put eternity into man’s heart; yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.”

(3:11)

The look from the INSIDE brings CONFUSION

#### AM I LOOKING AT DEATH FROM THE UP SIDE? WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I DIE?

➤ **EITHER: We endure SEPARATION from God for all eternity.**

“He is patient with you, because He does not wish that any should perish, but that all should turn away from their sins.”

(2 Peter 3: 9)

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

(John 3:16)

➤ **OR: We enjoy CELEBRATION with God for eternity.**

“God himself will be with them...He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

(Rev. 21: 3-4)

“You fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.”

(Ps. 16:11)

The look from the UPSIDE reveals HOPE !

#### HOW DO YOU GET READY?

1. TRUST In Jesus Christ.

“Jesus has destroyed death, and brought to life and immortality to light through the gospel”

(2 Tim 1:10)

2. INVEST in Eternity!

“It’s a wonderful thing to be alive. If a person lives to be very old let him rejoice in everyday of life, but let him also remember that eternity is far longer and that everything down here is futile in comparison.”

(Eccles 11: 7-8 LB)

#### Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 3: 9- 15, 19- 22

<sup>9</sup> What gain has the worker from his toil?

<sup>10</sup> I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with.

<sup>11</sup> He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

<sup>12</sup> I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live;

<sup>13</sup> also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man.

<sup>14</sup> I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him.

<sup>15</sup> That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already has been; and God seeks what has been driven away.

<sup>19</sup> For what happens to the children of man and what happens to the beasts is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath, and man has no advantage over the beasts, for all is vanity.

<sup>20</sup> All go to one place. All are from the dust, and to dust all return.

<sup>21</sup> Who knows whether the spirit of man goes upward and the spirit of the beast goes down into the earth?

<sup>22</sup> So I saw that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot. Who can bring him to see what will be after him?