

A Matter of Life and Death

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

Will Rogers said there are two things we can all count on, “Death and taxes...” He left out the most important thing... GOD. Solomon brings us powerful wisdom that can change our lives on the subject of death!

**1. Life has
'seasons' that
we really need
to understand
(3:1)**

Knowing a “season” is what keeps us productive

- **That’s how you know when to plant, and when to reap, when to store away and when to spend lavishly!**
 - **What season of life are you in today?**

Knowing life's seasons is how we prepare for what's coming next!

- One season always follows another, are you stuck “out of season” or “waiting for a different season”

2. One of Life's Most Critical Seasons to understand and prepare for is called Death! (v. 2)

- **A season is a passage to something “next!” Something new. So is your life.**

***As men are not able to fight
against death, misery,
ignorance, they have taken it
into their heads, in order to
be happy, not to think of
them at all.***

Blaise Pascal

Death was not a part of God's 'perfect' plan for you

God is the God of life

Death is a consequence of sin

Death is a reality that every person should prepare to face...

We have an appointment that cannot be avoided

Hebrews 9:27 “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment...” KJV

It is God’s job to number our days... it is our job to be wise stewards of them.

Faith changes our perspective on Death entirely...

**“A good name is better than fine perfume,
and the day of death better than the day of birth.
It is better to go to a house of mourning
than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the
destiny of every man; the living should take this to
heart. (Ecclesiastes 7:1-2)**

Developing a biblical view of death

Death is a curse that had to be lifted

Death is a shadow (Psalm 23)

Death is already defeated in Christ (1 Cor. 15)

Death can be gain (Phil. 1:21) “For me, to live is Christ, to die is gain.”

3. There is only one certain way to prepare for death, knock it over with the cross!

- **John 5:24 “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”**

***You never know how much
you really believe anything
until its truth or falsehood
becomes a matter of life
and death to you.***

C. S. Lewis

Wrapping up our look at life and death:

- **Jesus has taken the bite... the sting out of death, so rejoice!**
- **Every person will die once, but no one wants to be a part of the second death (Revelations 20:14-15)**
- **Death's days are numbered (Rev. 21:4) but so are yours, so be prepared**