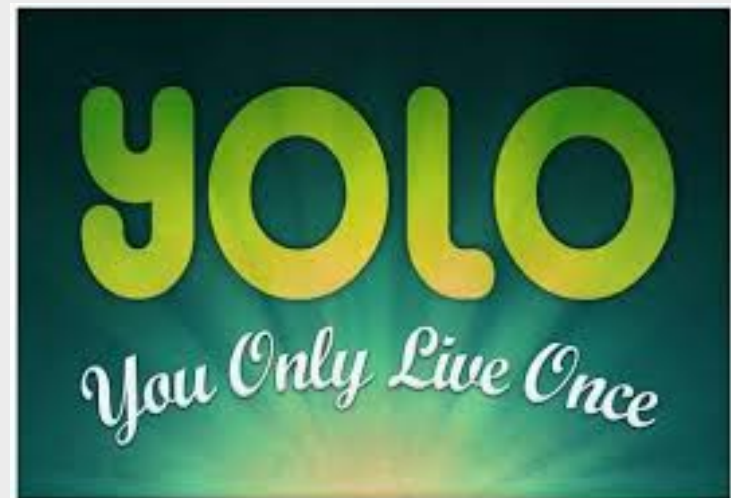


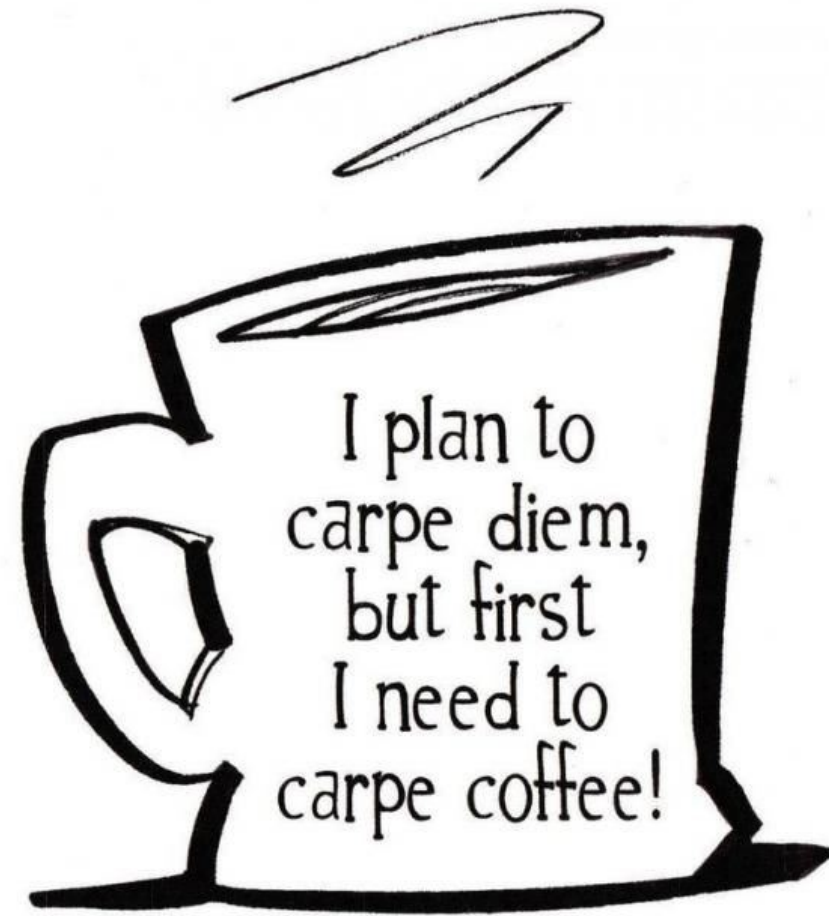


Making the Most of my Time on Planet Earth

Psalm 39

**Roman poet Horace coins the term
“carpe diem” (“pluck the day”)
around 50 B.C.**





How Social Isolation is Killing Us



Our incredible song today (Psalm 39) is about value... in particular the value we place on the precious commodity called “time.” How can you make the most of the time you are given? How can you avoid wasting your time?

David challenges us to ‘seize the moment’ with deep *love* for your God and your generation, deep *faith* in God’s goodness, and deep *hope* in your amazing future in Christ!

**¹ I said, “I will guard my ways,
that I may not sin with my tongue;
I will guard my mouth with a muzzle,
so long as the wicked are in my
presence.”**

**² I was mute and silent;
I held my peace to no avail,
and my distress grew worse.**

**³ My heart became hot within me.
As I mused, the fire burned;
then I spoke with my tongue:**

**4 “O Lord, make me know my end
and what is the measure of my
days; let me know how fleeting I am!**

**5 Behold, you have made my days a
few handbreadths, and my lifetime
is as nothing before you. Surely all
mankind stands as a mere
breath! *Selah***

**⁶ Surely a man goes about as a
shadow!**

**Surely for nothing they are in
turmoil; man heaps up wealth and
does not know who will gather!**

**⁷ “And now, O Lord, for what do I
wait?**

My hope is in you.

**8 Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Do not make me the scorn of the fool!**

**9 I am mute; I do not open my mouth,
for it is you who have done it.**

**10 Remove your stroke from me; I am
spent by the hostility of your hand.**

**11 When you discipline a man
with rebukes for sin, you consume like
a moth what is dear to him; surely all
mankind is a mere breath! *Selah***

**First... it is tempting to
disengage from the world and
just “do us,” but that does
not serve God’s purpose for
us or the world!**

(Verses 1-3)

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain.

19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.""

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

21 "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God." (Luke 12, NIV)

**What exactly are
my obligations to
God and my
neighbor regarding
how I live my life?**

Treat others as you want them to treat you. This is what the Law and the Prophets are all about. Matthew 7:12



**I will declare your name to my
people; in the assembly I will
praise you. Psalm 22:22**

**O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your
praise. Psalm 51:15**

**But the Holy Spirit will come upon
you and give you power. Then you
will tell everyone about me in
Jerusalem, in all Judea, in
Samaria, and everywhere in the
world."**

Acts 1:8, CEV

**God made you so He could
know and love you forever,
but that is not the whole
story. He also made you so
YOU could know and love
your generation, and tell
them of His love!**

**Second... I must learn
to be urgent about
eternal things as I
learn to be at peace
with mortal matters.**

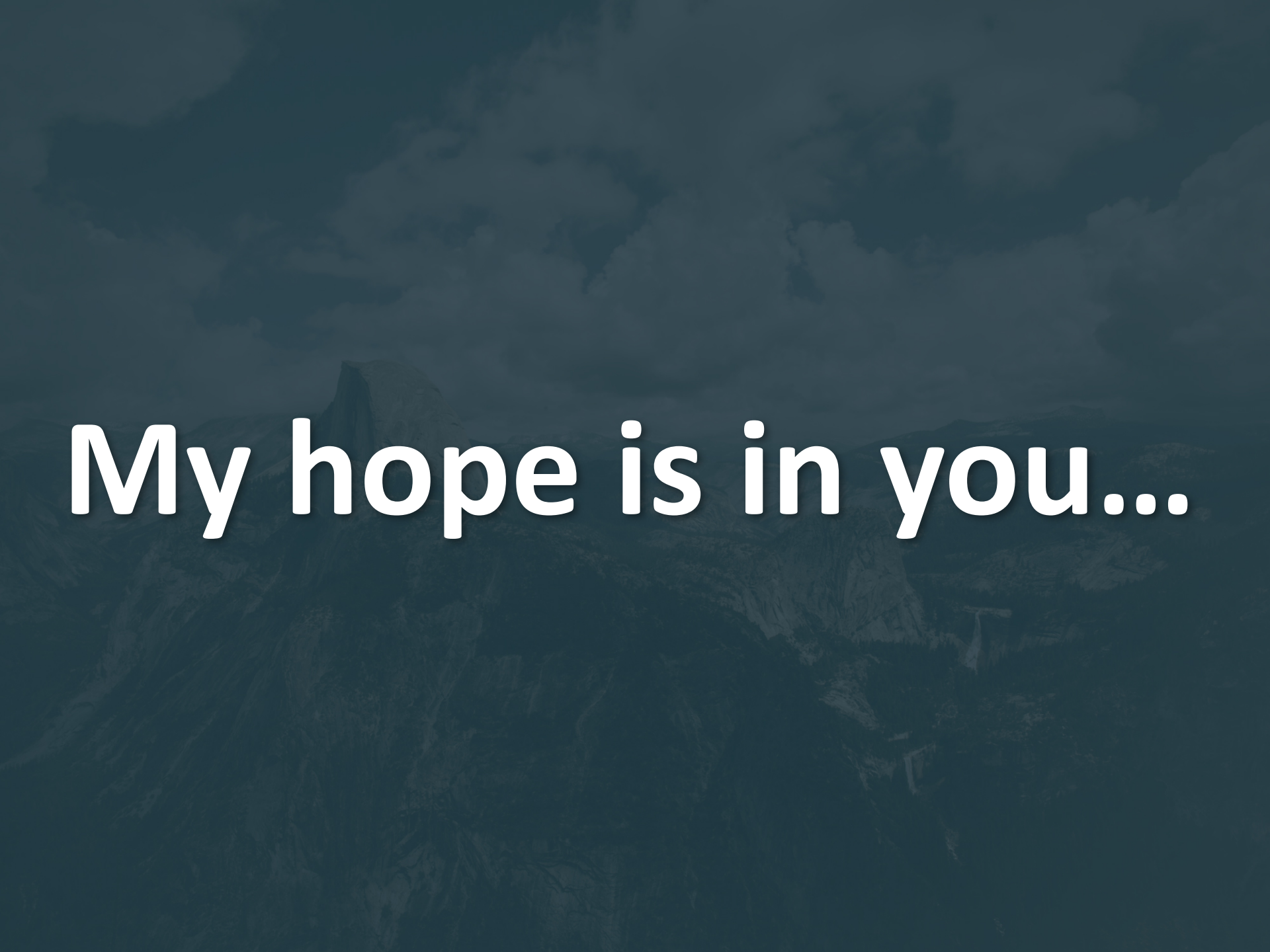
(verses 4-7)

4 Quick ways to waste your life without even trying

- To live like you have nothing, when you really have everything.
- To live like tomorrow is the show and today is the rehearsal.
- To live like your life is “your” life.
- To live like you have forever, but forget to secure forever

**Third... While I ponder the
meaning of my mortal
existence, it helps to
remember this world and
all its stuff is God's and not
mine, including me!**

(verses 7-11)



My hope is in you...

Ways we “give up” w/o realizing it:

- We let go of faith for sight and “right” for the sake of “right now”- this is giving up on God
 - We let go of our “soul” for the sake of our physical self. This is a form of giving up on “us.”
- We turn our neighbor into our competitor. This is how we give up on each other.

**The world and its desires
pass away, but whoever
does the will of God lives
forever.**

(1 John 2:17, NIV)

“Carpe aeternum!”

**12 “Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and give ear to my cry;
hold not your peace at my tears!
For I am a sojourner with you,
a guest, like all my fathers.**

**13 Look away from me, that I may
smile again,
before I depart and am no more!”**

**Conclusion... I intend to
make the most of my
fleeting days, and the
only way to truly do that
is to journey with God
today! (verses 12-13)**