

## 2020.09.13 Sunday Sermon <Let's Count the Days>

### **Ephesians 5:15-16**

<sup>15</sup> *Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,*

<sup>16</sup> *making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.*

### **Psalm 90:12**

*Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

\*Image of a Map - Shows the path Moses took with Israelites.

- Psalm 90 is prayer of Moses - calling the Lord to have mercy on him and the Israelites.
- We can also reference to Numbers 13 and 14 - After centuries of living in foreign lands, the time comes for the Israelites to return to the land God promised to Abraham. But soon after they set out for Canaan, Israel perpetually complains, sins, and even incites rebellion against Moses and Aaron in God's presence. Eleven days of travel in the wilderness become 40 years because of their unbelief, and only their children can enter the promised land. Tired and frustrated, even Moses rebels against God's command and is forbidden from entering the promised land. Each time Israel rebels, God displays his justice and mercy together. A pagan prophet is hired to curse Israel, but he only hears words of blessing from God. Even in their rebellion, God continues to show his incredible love and provision for them.

### 1. Days Lived = Past Days

- **Psalm 90:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> *You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.*

<sup>9</sup> *All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan.*

Through verses 8 and 9, we see Moses repenting of his sins. He is looking at his past and realizing that we are all sinners.

- **Exodus 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> *When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."*

We see Moses' realization that he is still alive due to the Lord's Grace. It was the Lord's Grace to save Moses from the water and to be taken care of by Pharaoh's daughter and become her son.

### 2. Days to Live = Remaining Days

- **Psalm 90:10a**

*Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures;*

**Psalm 39:4**

*"Show me, Lord, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is.*

Through these two verses, we do not know how many days we have left.

- **Psalm 90:10b**

*Yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.*

**Psalm 39:5**

*You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure.*

As these two verses show us - we are given these extra days by the Lord to do His will.

- Last Friday marked the 19th year since 9/11 occurred. We lost 2,977 lives and more than 25,000 people injured from this devastating event. We never thought about such event occurring in American soil. We just do not know what can occur today or tomorrow.

### **3. For Remaining Days - What Must We Practice?**

Since we do not know what can occur today or tomorrow, what must we practice as we are still able to count the days?

#### **A. REPENT**

- Image of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19–31)

<sup>19</sup>"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup>At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup>and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup>"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

- **Joel 2:12-13 Rend Your Heart**

<sup>12</sup> "Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning."

<sup>13</sup> Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

Just as we routinely prepare for bed (wash our faces and brush our teeth) - let us routinely repent to the Lord Father.

#### **B. RECEIVE**

- Image of Jesus Christ hanging on the cross - dying for our sins and saving us from our sins

- **John 1:12**

<sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

- Testimony of Dr. Hee-don Lee

He was the first Asian to be the president of the World Trade Center Association (WTCA). He is the elder of Seonggwang Church in Washington. He gave many testimonies but he is most remembered by his testimony relating to 9/11 event. Due to a severe stomach, he missed his flight to WTC NYC meeting on 9/11/2001. The Lord saved him from the devastating event. He died on September 3rd 2020. He was 61 years old. His last message/testimony - "to believe in Christ is to gain Heaven. If you reject Him, there is only hell."

#### **C. BE FAITHFUL**

- Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30 and Luke 19: 11-27)

A master puts his servants in charge of his goods while he is away on a trip. Upon his return, the master assesses the stewardship of his servants. He evaluates them according to how faithful each was in making wise investments of his goods to obtain a profit. It is clear that the master sought some profit from the servants' oversight. A gain indicated faithfulness on the part of the servants. The master rewards his servants according to how each has handled his stewardship. He judges two servants as having been "faithful" and gives them a positive reward. To the single unfaithful servant, who "played it safe", a negative compensation is given.

- Through this parable, Jesus Christ is telling us to be faithful in every step of the way. Be faithful to your family, at work, at church, at school...wherever you may be, be faithful to the Lord and Jesus.

- **Revelation 2:10**

*Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.*

- **1 Corinthians 15:58**

*Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

- Dr. Hee-don Lee was a true servant of God and never missed his Sunday Worship. No matter where his meeting was held, he made sure he came back home to give worship at his home church. He even served as a guide at church parking lot for Sundays.

\*In summary, we need to start counting our days and fulfill Lord's will.

**1. REPENT**

**2. RECEIVE**

**3. BE FAITHFUL = PRAY**

\* Praise - *"I Know Who Holds Tomorrow"*

*I don't know about tomorrow*

*I just live from day to day*

*I don't borrow from its sunshine*

*For its skies may turn to gray*

*I don't worry over the future*

*For I know what Jesus said*

*And today I'll walk beside Him*

*For He knows what is ahead*