

2021.02.28 Sunday Sermon <Life Is...>

Proverbs 8:17

¹⁷ *I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.*

1 Chronicles 29:15

¹⁵ *We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope.*

*** Image of February Calendar**

It is already last day of February and two months has passed since the New Year. As I was looking at the calendar, it made me think what life is.

In today's scripture, the Lord teaches us about life through David.

1. Life Is...Like a Wayfarer

***Image of Wayfarer/Traveler** - As shown on the image, we are all visitors or temporary residents. Like all of our ancestors, we stay here on earth for a while and we are called from heaven above. Just as temporary visas have expiring dates, we all have set dates on when we need to return

1 Chronicles 29:15a

¹⁵ *We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors.*

Jacob was called to heaven when he was 147 years old. Abraham was 175 years old. Isaac was 180 years old and Joseph was 130 years old. As we learn about their lives in the scripture, we also need to ask ourselves what must we look like as we are called from heaven above?

1 Peter 2:1

¹ *Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.*

2 Peter 3:11-12

¹¹ *Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.*

When we travel abroad, we need to show our passports. Similarly, in order to enter the heaven above, we need our faith and belief in the Lord and Jesus Christ. Our passport or key to heaven above is not money or our degree. The Lord is looking for travelers with holiness and godliness.

2. Life Is...Like a Shadow

*** Image of Shadow** - As we see on the image and today's scripture, our days on this earth is not long. Our days on earth are short like a shadow, a mere handbreadth, and a mist that appears for a short time.

1 Chronicles 29:15b

Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope.

Psalm 39:5

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.*

James 4:14

¹⁴ *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.*

Although our lives on earth maybe short, our lives in heaven will be forever. So know that no matter who we are or what power we may have here on earth...it does not mean anything in heaven above. We see this through David, King Solomon, and Moses:

Psalm 144:4

Man is like to vanity; his days are as a shadow that passes away.

Ecclesiastes 1:1 - Everything Is Meaningless

The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem...

Psalm 39:6

"Surely everyone goes around like a mere phantom; in vain they rush about, heaping up wealth without knowing whose it will finally be.

Psalm 90:5

Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—they are like the new grass of the morning:

What they all also have in common is that they wish not to live a short life in vain. They do not want to regret for living in vain and want to reflect on all of their sins. How can we not live a life in vain?

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter:

Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.

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.

Most importantly, believe in Jesus Christ who died on the cross for all of us. Let us serve our Father and Jesus Christ with all of our hearts as we live on this earth.

3. Life Is... Like Being Naked

* *Image of Hands (Child and Parent)* - As David said to the Lord, nothing belongs to us. We came here empty handed and we leave here empty handed. This is why life is like being naked. God gave us all of these things to us as gifts...so we must be thankful and give back to the Lord.

1 Chronicles 29:14

¹⁴ *"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as*

this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

Job 1:21

²¹ *and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart.
The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."*

So how do we exactly give back to the Lord? By serving your neighbors, lending to the Lord, and storing up our savings in heaven above.

Matthew 25:40

⁴⁰ *"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'*

Proverbs 19:17

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Matthew 6:20

²⁰ *But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.*

Story of Deacon and Grandmother

This is a story of one deacon and grandmother at a Korean church. There was a female deacon who attended church with three of her sons. At the end of Sunday Worship, she saw a grandmother having difficult time coming down the stairs. The grandmother was her neighbor so she decided to give her ride home. Later on the deacon decided to give her ride every Sunday. The grandmother was so touched and thanked the deacon. She said she is most happy coming to church every Sunday but when it rains or snows, she can't come to church. Ever since that they, the deacon kept her promise and gave rides to the grandmother every Sunday.

One day, an amazing thing happened to the grandmother. She came to meet the deacon to share the good news. Grandmother actually won a car through a bazaar hosted by the church. When hearing this news, the three sons of the deacon clapped and congratulated the grandmother. The grandmother took out the key and handed to the deacon saying, "I am too old to drive this car. I know your car is getting tired, so God prepared a precious gift for you." The deacon accepted the gift and look to heaven above with tearful eyes. Always remember God helps those in need and those who give.

In Summary

When we return to heaven above, let us be...

1. Godly wayfarers / travelers
2. Shadows that embraced Jesus Christ and His Words
3. Naked men with savings in heaven