

EXPIRED

Terminal

The End Is Near!

Psalm 90:1-10

A middle-aged brother wanted a face-to-face meeting with his pastor. He shared that he had esophageal cancer with little hope of recovery. He had to adjust to the fact that his days were numbered, and that his death was very near.

Those who are wise realize that everyone has a terminal illness. “Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” (*James 1:15*). We all have an expiration date. “For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away” (*James 4:14*).

The Bible compares our life to grass and to a flower, both of which are here today and gone tomorrow (*Isaiah 40:6-8; Psalm 103:14-16*). The foolish rich man thought that he had “many years” to live, yet that very night his soul was required of him (*Luke 12:19-20*). “Man that is born of a woman is of few days.... He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not (*Job 14:1-2*). “LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is, that I may know how frail I am. Behold, Thou hast made my days as an handbreadth” (*Psalm 39:4-5*). “Remember how short my time is” (*Psalm 89:47*). “My days are like a shadow that declineth” (*Psalm 102:11*). “We all do fade as a leaf” (*Isaiah 64:6*).

Since we have so few days remaining, let us be redeeming the time, buying up every opportunity to accomplish what will last for eternity and be laying up treasure in heaven. The finish line is not far away, and we want to finish the race well. “The time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith” (*2 Tim. 4:6-7*).

~George Zeller:

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