



BLC

Beacon@Home

The Law of the Lord; Studying it, Observing it and Teaching it.

2019

Year's Theme : Prophetic Acceleration
8th Dec '19 - Topic : Teach Us to Number our Days
Main Text : Psalm 90:1-12
Building Texts : (In citations)
Minister : Pastor Lucy Desire

Shalom!

A delightful birthday to you Pastor Lucy Desire! As you turn forty, we dearly love and celebrate you, the priceless treasure you are to us, and we cheer you on – *go forth in the strength of the Lord God*. Your “diverse excellencies” as a mother to us here at BLC, are woven together in such harmony that we are never off balance.

Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all!

My heart was stirred up to two objects of import as the ‘birthday girl’ shared the scriptures: The ‘illusion of time’ - we know our lives are short and yet we all find this hard to actually believe – “...*our lives are “like grass that is renewed in the morning [and] in the evening it fades and withers.” (Psalm 90:5-6)*. That we live the span of our lives on earth in just but a flash within eternity, and then our mortal bodies return to the dust, as appointed of all men (Genesis 3:19; Psalm 90:3), yet relating to an eternal God, who has made us in his image, and has actually *put eternity in the hearts of men (Ecclesiastes 3:11)*, seemingly makes the awareness of our transient nature negligible. To say we have both eternity and mortality at work in us – seems such a conflict. Secondly, in the words of the Psalmist, “*Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.*” (Psalm 139:14), that made in God’s image, we innately know that our lives are significant. Yet, our sinful pride and frailty insidiously draws us to want to measure our significance outside God’s gracious endowment, unsatisfied by the humble, yet incredible knowledge that God made us in his image. *We are significant creatures, but we want to be significant gods.*

Repeatedly, the minister called us to implore on the Lord to grant us a heart of wisdom – that the elusive fleetingness of life would not rob us the diligence to account for and aptly steward God’s gift of life to us. It is apparent to the writer of this Psalm that, echoing the counsel of Moses, the awareness of death’s fierce reality did not itself lead people to live wisely. That’s why he prayed, “*So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.*” (Psalm 90:12). So then we understand that numbering our days is not enough. God, the author of life, needs to teach us what numbering our days really means. Then we will have a heart of wisdom. The famous virtuous woman of proverbs 31 set the tone for us; she is ever instant, in and out of season – ‘rightly dividing’ the lot that her life embodies – spending and being spend, excelling at every good work – her inspiring testimony, her legacy is ‘...*her works praise her at the gate.*’ (Proverbs 31:31).

The admonition to have the Lord teach us to number our days is a simple yet salient a call to remember that our lives are short and that our dying will be soon. The heart of wisdom, when we consider these things, will help us remain focused, and while it is still day, to ‘fight the good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith’, as the Apostle Paul would retrospect at the end of his days.

1. “Life is short” – what is common worldview on this phrase? What is the biblical view?
2. In what ways has the counsel from Psalm 90 challenged, and instructed you to live wisely?
3. What is your commitment moving forward?

Memory Verse Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. (Psalm 90:12)

Grace and peace be multiplied!