

**9-10-17**  
**GRANDPARENTS LEARN TO NUMBER OUR DAYS**

Psalms 90:4 For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Psalms 90:5 Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.

Psalms 90:6 In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

Psalms 90:7 For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.

Psalms 90:8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

Psalms 90:9 For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

Psalms 90:10 The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Psalms 90:11 Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.

Psalms 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

***Teach us to number our days..***

Today is grandparents day. I did not realize it was grandparents day until yesterday. Yesterday we had started our group lessons to teach people how to play the piano. My oldest grandson was in that class. One of the goals of the class is to help people younger people get more involved in serving the Lord through the gift of music. After just one day of classes I taught, what better way to get started with that goal than to have my Grandson play the offering for Grandparents day..

Also since it is Grandparents day I thought it good to share a message that should hime for grandparents..

Ron White just passed away, he almost made it to 80 years of age. My Mom just made it to 80 years of age. My Dad died at the age of 49 ½.

The Bible says if by reason of strength your days be fourscore you're doing good. Death comes, and there is no rhyme or reason as to why some live longer than others.

When you read about the Kings, most of them did not live long.  
David. Solomon. They both reigned 40 years and died at age 70.  
They were loved of the Lord.  
They were great men of God.

Look, why should I expect more than what God gave them?  
If He gives me 40 years of ministry.  
If He gives me three score and ten, who am I to complain?

Now in light of this, our lives are short, limited, and our days will soon be cut off.

HOW THEN SHOULD WE LIVE?

***I. IT IS NOT THE THINGS THAT YOU THINK WILL LAST THAT WILL.***

***1. Things that will not last:***

Last week I preached a message Earthly Pictures & Heavenly Realities.

We would think being found in the History books, being famous.

Having built a great business.

Having accumulated great wealth.

These would mean something in eternity. NO, THEY DO NOT LAST.

Look at how famous Robert E. Lee was and they are destroying his statues, Joe Paterno, was there ever a more famous football coach? In eternity all the history books are going to be re-written.

I Corinthians 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

I Corinthians 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

Ron White, the very last thing he did for the church was arrange for a sign to be made. I believe that little act of kindness for the Lord's work will last.

***2. The only thing that will last will be endeavors that we have done in obedience to Christ.***

***A. Such endeavors may appear to others as a waste of time.***

Luke 10:41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

Luke 10:42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

***B. Such Endeavors Include all acts of Obedience to Christ.***

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Today Sara Nazir is going to obey the Lord's command to be Baptized. All those who make this step of obedience, this will last because it is something you did that Christ asked you to do!

***C. Such endeavors include building His Kingdom and church obeying His commands.***

I Corinthians 3:7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

I Corinthians 3:8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

I Corinthians 3:9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

I Corinthians 3:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

I Corinthians 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

I Corinthians 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

I Corinthians 3:14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

I Corinthians 3:15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

I Corinthians 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

I Corinthians 3:17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

## ***II. THE ONLY THING ON EARTH THAT WE CAN TAKE TO HEAVEN WITH US ARE THE SOULS WE WIN TO CHRIST.***

### ***1. SOULS HARVESTED FOR CHRIST ARE GOING TO BRING A REWARD AND JOY IN HEAVEN SOMEDAY.***

#### ***A. SOULS SAVED ARE CALLED OUR HOPE, JOY, OR CROWN OF REJOICING.***

I Thessalonians 2:19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

I Thessalonians 2:20 For ye are our glory and joy.

#### ***B. GOD PROMISES WAGES UNTO ETERNAL LIFE TO THOSE WHO HARVEST SOULS.***

John 4:35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

John 4:36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

John 4:37 And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth.

John 4:38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.

## ***III. YOUR LIFE IS A COURSE AND YOUR GOAL SHOULD BE TO BE ABLE TO SAY I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE..***

Not only do we need to obey the Lord but we have to endure to the end in our obedience to the Lord. How you end your life is more important than how you started. We all need to end well.

Ron White ended well because he was seeking to do service for the Lord even to the end.

So many end this life backslidden, they abandon church. They stop doing things for God. I had a fellow one time when I went to see him was afraid to meet God because he abandoned going to church and knew he was going to have to answer for that.

Finish your race.  
Be faithful to the end.

This is Grandparents day. Grandparents are getting older. Since we are getting older we should not let up on serving the Lord. So many decide now is the time to stop doing and lay back and relax. Buy that RV and go live in Florida.

Now those same people called snow birds are abandoning their RV's fleeing from Hurricane Irma.

Jesus gave a message to Grandparents in Luke 12:16-21.

Luke 12:19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

Luke 12:20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

Luke 12:21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

II Timothy 4:6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

II Timothy 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

II Timothy 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Paul sensed that his work was complete.

Jesus came to fulfil a certain work and He finished that work.

So it is that we should seek to do a work for the kingdom of God and finish it.

Can we say, like Paul:

II Timothy 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT.

I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE.

I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.

### **1. I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT.**

Life is a struggle and in that struggle many quit and give up.

Many get bitter.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Some people throw in the towel and quit.

Will we serve Him till the end?  
Will we go down serving Christ?  
Will we leave this world with a good testimony?

Some make shipwreck of their lives.  
Pastor left his wife living in immorality.  
Christians abandon the church in bitterness and give up.  
Some surrender to the enemy.

I Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

He is looking to make mince meat of those who fall by the wayside.

## **2. I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE.**

God has a work and course of each of us to finish.  
Paul could look back at churches he planted.  
Paul could look back at people throughout Asia who were saved under his ministry.

Do you even know what that course is for you to finish?

THERE ARE MANY THINGS YOU CAN DO IN THIS LIFE.  
HOWEVER, MOST OF THOSE THINGS WILL NOT AMOUNT TO ANYTHING FOR  
ETERNITY.

A runner needs to stay on course. It is not enough that he just run.

There is a track that is set and if you say well I was running,  
you need to head to the finish line, not stray off course.  
You need to not stop and take a siesta.

## **3. I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.**

You must play by the rules if you are to be crowned.

II Timothy 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.  
II Timothy 2:4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.  
II Timothy 2:5 And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

What is it to Keep the faith..

It means that you do not sway  
You do not go after heresies, isims, schisms.  
You remain sound and true, and faithful to the Scripture.

God wants us not only to work for Him  
But we need to work for Him according to the rule book.

Jehovah Witnesses, they witness but they do not follow the faith.  
They try to win souls but not according to the Faith.  
They have a message but they changed the message.  
They have made a new rule book.

THE FAITH IS THAT SET OF DOCTRINE AND TEACHINGS THAT HAS BEEN HANDED  
DOWN TO US THROUGH THE APOSTLES AND HIS CHURCH.

THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS TO:

Psalms 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Grandparents, if you are approaching 70 number your days and get busy for God.  
Grandparents, if you are approaching 80 number your days you have had a grace period to  
serve God.

Grandparents, if you are over 80 number your days you are an exception but God will make no  
exceptions in heaven for you. Seek to have fruit for eternity. Finish out your course well.  
If you are young number your days. **SERVE YOUR CREATOR WHILE YOU ARE YOUNG!**

Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come  
not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

Ecclesiastes 12:2 While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the  
clouds return after the rain:

Ecclesiastes 12:3 In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men  
shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of  
the windows be darkened,

Ecclesiastes 12:4 And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is  
low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought  
low;

Ecclesiastes 12:5 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the  
way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall  
fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets:

Ecclesiastes 12:6 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher  
be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return  
unto God who gave it.