

## ONE LIFE TO LIVE

(James 4:13-16)

This message deals specifically with the brevity of life. In this scripture, James describes life as a vapor that appears for a moment and then vanishes away. Job described it as a few days that are full of trouble. David described life as a handbreath which is the length of your four fingers. Moses in the 90<sup>th</sup> Psalm recommends that we ask God to help us number our days so that we can apply our hearts to wisdom. In other words to help us to spend our days wisely.

Life at best is short, especially when we compare the life span of man in the Old Testament who lived hundreds of years. The bible states in Psalm 90 that the days of our years are three score and ten and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

There are two dates that are the most significant in our lives and they are the day we are born and the day we die. In between those two dates is a little dash and that little dash represents our whole life. It's important what we do with that dash because we only have one life to live. I know somebody might be saying, that's okay because I'm going to heaven when I die. So am I, but right now we live on earth and God wants his people to enjoy everyday life because it is his gift to us. He wants us to redeem the time. He wants us to be blessed and prosperous. He wants us to walk in divine health. He said to Israel, I want you to be the head and not the tail. Above only and not beneath. So the theory of the poorer you are the more spiritual you are has absolutely no scriptural basis whatsoever.

In St. John 10:10 Jesus said, the thief cometh not but for to kill, steal and destroy but he said I am come that ye may life and that ye may have it more abundantly.

There are some people that have a zest for life. They know how to enjoy God and his blessings. they know how to enjoy people and relationships and they make every day count. Then there are other people who are only happy when they are unhappy. They never have a good day. Every day is filled with complaints starting with blue Monday. Listen, God makes every day and every day we wake up we should declare that this is the day that the Lord hath made, I will rejoice and be glad in it.

We are made after the triune nature of God. (Body, Soul and Spirit). It's not just about the soul, and the spirit. It's about the whole man and the only way that we can live our best life now and live to our full potential in God is to have balance in our lives. It's ALL about putting things in the right priority and the right perspective.

(1) PUT GOD FIRST

(Matthew 6:33 – But seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And his righteousness and all these things shall be added to you.

(2) ENLARGE YOUR VISION

Where there is no vision the people perish. Big God/small vision doesn't go together. If you are a child of the most High God then release your faith and believe God for the vision to come to pass.

God has promised us some things in his word and God knows I want everything he has promised to me. I have come to the conclusion that

good is the enemy of great and I heard David say.... The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad...not good things but GREAT THINGS. The Lord said I will show you great and mighty things that you know not.

### (3) LET GO OF THE PAST

Philippians 3: 13-14, Brethren I count not myself to have apprehended, but this one thing I do forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before.....I press.....

The past is the past. You can reflect upon it but you can't get stuck there. Whatever you would've, should've or could've done is insignificant right now. Recognize your mistakes, or your misfortunes and keep it moving. Precious memories, how they linger but keep it moving.

### (4) WATCH OVER YOUR WORDS

Proverbs 18:21-Death and life are in the power of the tongue...  
Speak life to your life and don't allow anyone to speak any negative thing over your life or the life of your children, your grandchildren or anyone else that is connected to you.

### (5) CHOOSE TO BE HAPPY NOW

Many times we make plans to enjoy our lives after we have done other things. God wants us to be happy now, not when you retire, not when you save up enough money, not when you graduate from college. Choose to be happy now!

You only have ONE life to live!