

CP — 11/16/25

Ecclesiastes 7:1-14—“Live like You are Dyin”

Sermon Outline:

Wisdom is viewing life as a gift rather than gain.

2 hooks to hang out thoughts on:

1. Listen to the invitation of death (1-6)
2. Accept the limitation of wisdom (7-14)

1. Listen to the invitation of death (1-6)

- the day of death teaches more than the day of birth (1-2)
 - “The living will lay it to heart”
 - Death is real
 - Death is our enemy
 - Death is final but not the end
 - Death is followed by 2 destinies
- the coffin is a better teacher than the crib
 - At birth all that can be said is hopes and resemblances
 - At death, one’s life is called to memory
 - Everything comes into focus... what matters/what doesn’t
 - Lives we touched and love we gave means much more
 - Look forward to that day and ask how you want to be remembered
 - Write your eulogy now so someone doesn’t have to lie at your funeral
 - “Fetch your last day and make it your companion”
 - 2 types of people at a funeral (the fool/the wise)
 - Many a man who have put their life together at a funeral home
 - death invites us to think and grow in depth
 - Not superficial people but those who know sorrow and realness
 - A person who knows how to weep is one who understand the blessing of laughter
 - A good life is one who has prepared to die a good death
 - 2 Corinthians 5:1-10
 - One day the camping trip will be over
- Jesus’s day of death was better than his day of birth
 - Because of His death, our day of death is our greatest day... it’s the day we fully receive all that he has provided
 - Because of His death, death is no longer our Lord therefore it can teach us something

2. Accept the limitation of wisdom (7-14)

- Wisdom doesn’t come in stainless steel or bullet-proof material
 - Warnings to not fall into escapism
 - Extortion — escaping responsibility (7)
 - Impatience — escaping reality (8)
 - Anger — escaping inability to cope (9)
 - Nostalgia — escaping the grapple of the present (10)
 - Effects us all (buildings, places, people, emotions)
 - “Only children thank that what they are longing for actually is what they are longing for”
 - The books/music/memory/places will betray us
 - They are just the scent of the flower or the sound of the city that we haven’t been to yet

- God is giving you a glimpse into your longing. You have been created and given a longing for something you have yet to experience fully.
- **Wise people who understanding the longing we feel, do not look backward into the past but forward to glory.**
- Wisdom has its limits (11-14)
 - It can rust and be tempted to cave in
 - Yes, it can help us in every area of our lives
 - But we cannot know all things because only God can
 - Trust in Him

Small Group Discussion:

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the Scripture and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?
2. How does viewing death honestly— as real, unavoidable, and revealing— change the way we live today? In what way does thinking about our “last day” help clarify what actually matters?
3. What do you think your eulogy would say if it were written today?
4. Which form of escapism are you most tempted by when life gets hard? How does recognizing the limits of our own wisdom help us resist these escapes?
5. How does acknowledging that we cannot know everything —and that our longings point us forward to glory— shape your trust in God?
6. How does the gospel change our relationship towards death? How does preaching the gospel to ourselves help us live well and die well?