



Does Anything Last Forever?

(The Living and Enduring Word of God)

All Grass, Flowers and Flesh Wither and Fade Away, But We Don't Fear the Reaper!

1 Peter 1:23-25

*"I am going to die. You are going to die. We are all going to die!
And there's no way out of it. It's going to happen! And, who cares if it's tomorrow or in eighty years?
Do you know how fast time goes? I was six, like, yesterday."*

Siggy Marvin (*What About Bob?*)

"You do know, none of us is getting out of here alive, don't you?"

Robert Erskine Patrick, Jr.

"You should encourage your congregation to meditate on death. It may sound strange. Death is the one topic most people (even Christians) try to avoid. But, your remembering death, your having 'death awareness', helps us not grasp for short-lived pleasures, but to live wisely—enjoying life as a gift while remaining conscious of time and longing for something better, which is yet to come."

Josh Manley

"The essence of wisdom is to prepare for death, to reckon with its impending reality, to make ready for it, and to live in the light of it. Given that we will die, it is foolish to live ignoring it or pretending that our bodies will live forever."

E. Goligher and K. Hackman

*"Fading is the worldling's pleasures, all is boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know!"*

John Newton

*"I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless.
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness!
Where is thy sting, death? Where, grave, thy victory?
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me!"*

Henry Lyte

I. The Gift of LIFE *"From dust we were made"* **Genesis 2:7**

- A. Flesh is *Frail***
- B. Life is *Fleeting***

II. The Curse of DEATH *".....and to dust we will return....."* **Ecclesiastes 3:18-20**

- A. The Real *Curse* and *Consequence* of Sin**
- B. The Unavoidable, Coming Condition**

III. The Hope of Resurrection *".....until all things are made new!"* **Revelation 21:1-5**

- A. His *Word* and *Promises* are our *Hope***
- B. His *Word* and *Promises* are what *Lasts Forever***

1 Corinthians 15:54-58 *The Promise of "the Death of Death!"*

1 Peter 1:23-25

23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. 24 For,

*“All people are like grass,
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall,
25 but the word of the Lord endures forever.”*

And this is the word that was preached to you.

Isaiah 40:8

Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

Genesis 2:7

The Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Ecclesiastes 3:18-20

“As for humans, God tests them so that they may see that they are like the animals. 19 Surely the fate of human beings is like that of the animals; the same fate awaits them both: As one dies, so dies the other. All have the same breath....20 All go to the same place; all come from dust, and to dust all return.”

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Hebrews 9:27

It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment...

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

50 I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— 52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. 54 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

55 “Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Revelation 21:1-5

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

5 And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”