

“How Long Have I to Live?”

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

- A. Barzillai the Aged chose to trust God rather than David for the disposition of the end of his life - 2Sam. 19:31-39
- B. It is a part of God's design that profound changes come to one's body, mind and spirit as he ages - Ecc. 12:1-7
- C. The prayer of an old man for deliverance - Psalm 71:1-3, 5-9, 17-20
- D. How is the love of God manifested in the aging process?
 - 1. How many precious soldiers of the cross, men and women, have we watched grow tired and incapable of maintaining their posts on the front lines?
- E. What Blessings Has God Bestowed On The Aged?
 - 1. Honor, Wisdom, Strength, Grandchildren, Many Years
- F. Bible wisdom on growing old

II. God's Promise Of A Happy Long Life Is Conditional On Obedience.

- 1. Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:33, 30:20; Psalm 34:12-13; Prov. 3:1-2, 9:10-11, 10:27

III. God Has On Occasion Extended Life In Response To Prayer.

- 1. 2Kings 20:1-7; Psalms 21:4; James 5:15

IV. God Said We Should Not Worry About Dying.

- 1. Gen. 27:1-4, 35:28-29; Heb. 2:15

V. God Knows How Long We Will Live. Death Is Part Of The Gift Of Life.

- 1. Job 7:1; Psalm 31:15, 48:14

VI. God Tells Us Our Time Is Limited.

- 1. Psalm 39:4, 90:12; Luke 2:26; 2Tim. 4:6-7; 2Peter 1:14; Job 12:10; Heb. 9:27

VII. A Shorter Life Is Sometimes Better, If It Is God's Purpose.

- 1. Gen. 5:23-24; Phil. 1:21

VIII. Sometimes God Removes The Righteous So He Can Punish The Wicked.

- 1. Isa. 57:1-2; 1Kings 14:12-13

IX. The Elderly Serve A Unique And Useful Purpose In The Kingdom.

- 1. Psalm 92:14; Ex. 7:7; Joel 2:28; Titus 2:2-3; 1Sam. 12:1-2, 16, 19; Psalm 148:12-13
- 2. Luke 2:36-38; 1Tim. 5:5; 2Tim. 1:5

X. A Lifetime Of Experiences Is A Treasure

- 1. Psalm 37:25; 2Peter 1:12-15; Philemon 9

XI. Age Alone Does Not Always Make One Wise.

- 1. Psalm 119:100; Prov. 16:31

XII. Occasionally The Elderly Can Be Resistant Toward Change.

1. Ecc. 4:13; 7:10

XIII. Even The Elderly Must Guard Their Relationship With God.

1. 1Kings 11:4

XIV. The Value Of Life Exceeds Every Possession.

1. Job 2:4; Matt. 6:25

XV. Our Outlook On Aging Influences How We Feel About Ourselves And Our Usefulness To God.

1. Old age has its own form of beauty - Prov. 20:29

2. Old age is described in Scripture as good - Gen. 15:15, 25:8; 1Chron. 29:28

XVI. Growing Old Should Not Be A Source Of Discouragement.

1. Ecc. 11:10

XVII. Old Age Is Only Temporary.

1. Job 14:5; Psalm 89:47; Gen. 47:9; 2Sam. 14:14

XIX. Life In This World Is Soon Forgotten.

1. Psalm 90:9; Isa. 38:18; Ecc. 6:12; James 4:14

XX. Acceptance Of The Brevity Of Life Should Not Make Us Despondent, But Inspire Us To Focus On Eternal And Spiritual Things To Make Each Day Count.

1. Deut. 32:29; Psalms 90:12-14