

HOW DO WE SPEND THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES ?

Psalms 90:10, "The days of our years are three-score 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."

When we consider the number of the years of our life in a proper perspective, they are few. The years of a person's life in this world, according to scripture, is/are: a "vapour", James 4:14; "a moment", 2 Cor 5:17; "swifter than a weaver's shuttle", Job 7:6; "swifter than a post" (Mail post), Job 9:25; "swift as ships", Job 9:26. When we are age 16, 80 years seems like a great amount of time. When we are 45, the same amount of time seems much shorter. When we reach 70-80, the years behind us often seem like a dream that has soon slipped from our memory. Time, without question, should be used wisely. If each of us lived to exactly 80 years of age, that would equate to 29,200 days (365 days per year x 80 years). The same amount of years would equal 700,800 hours. Wow, if I lived to be 80 (since I'm already 46 years old), I only have 12,410 days and 297,840 hours remaining in my life. Your response may be, "But we all live to be different ages, so your math is just speculation at best". And to that I will agree. According to recent studies, the life expectancy for a man is 76 years, while a woman is 81 years.

The question that was asked at the beginning of this effort was "How do we spend the days of our lives?"

According to recent studies, the average American citizen will spend 8 years of their lives in amusements (2,920 days or 70,080 hours); 6 years eating (2,190 days or 52,560 hours); 5 years in transportation (1,825 days or 43,800 hours); 4 years in conversation (1,460 days or 35,040 hours); 3 years being sick (1,095 days or 26,280 hours); and less than 1 year in God's service (less than 365 days or less than 8,760 hours, which includes being at Church for 90 minutes every Sunday and praying daily for 10 minutes).

The Bible calls on the children of God to put Him first in their lives. Jesus Christ taught us in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;..." When we consider how much time we really give to the Lord, there is no mystery why we have so many struggles in our nation, homes, and personal lives. In 2 Chronicles 7:14 we read, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and forgive their sin, and will heal their land." What a precious promise we have received from the Lord in this verse of scripture, but if you will notice, it starts with "If my people..." Brothers and Sisters, we cannot change what we did yesterday, but we can start today making changes in how we spend tomorrow. Let us make a change in our lives, and let us draw near to Him, who loved us before time began. Amen!

Elder Ronnie B. Loudermilk