

Serving Jesus - Not Satan.

Our Verse for the day: John 3:16 (KJV) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Our devotion today is an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for February 21, 2021.

GENESIS 47:8-9

How Old Are YOU?

When I was a boy, I always heard the saying, son you are not old enough to do this or that.

As the time passed by, I found that I was too old to do some of the things I wanted to do when I was a boy.

The question of age is interesting in the Bible. We find many definitions or examples to the question. Some would say that their days were short here on earth, while others would say they were long.

Some would say they had good days while others would say that their days had been evil.

Look at the passage that we read today. Jacob said, **"THE DAYS OF THE YEARS OF MY PILGRIMAGE ARE AN HUNDRED AND THIRTY YEARS."** In the same verse he said, **"FEW AND EVIL HAVE THE DAYS OF THE YEARS OF MY LIFE BEEN."** In the same verse he spoke of how short his life had been, **"(THE DAYS) HAVE NOT ATTAINED UNTO THE DAYS OF THE YEARS OF THE LIFE OF MY FATHERS."**

Let us think about some of the way's men see their life or I should say people.

I. HOW MEN MEASURE THEIR DAYS:

1. By the length of their days;
 - a. A baby in hours, then days, then weeks, then months
 - b. Then we go to years. Oh, I am so old. I am just too old to do this or that.

2. By the self-satisfaction they have attained. I have done this or that. Look at me and see what hard work will do.
3. By their sorrows and misfortunes. Loss of children, house etc.
4. By the amount of money, they have. And the amount they keep.
5. By the reputation they have acquired. Both good and bad.
6. By their spiritual and moral development. Born again and can tell you how old they are in the Lord.
7. By the good they can do and not brag about it.

Most of this is good. This is the only way we have to assess what and who we are. But how does God look at us?

II. HOW GOD MEASURES OUR DAYS.

1. **BY THE HEIGHT OF OUR IDEALS.** James 1:27: **Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.** How high do we think? Are our thoughts pure, loving, godly?

2. **By the depth of our convictions:** I Peter 2:1-3 **¹Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, ²As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: ³If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.**

Too many Christians are still babes by their convictions. Can we really say we are convicted about anything?

Our nation situation. The world situation

3. **By the amount of sympathy, we share.** I Peter 2:21 **For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:** Do we have sympathy for one another?

4. By the length of our sacrifice and love. John 15:12-13 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 13. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Have you ever sacrificed anything for God? Most of us cannot even sacrifice a few minutes of prayer time, study time and the list go on. No sacrifice, no faith.

In closing, I ask the question: How old are you in Christ and the eyes of God.

1. Are you saved?
2. Are you a babe?
3. Are you a child?
4. Are you an adult?

Only you and God knows. But we must always remember that not only does God look at us, our young ones do also.

As we continue to deal with Covid-19, let us all be aware that Satan desires us to be on his side, but Jesus is the one that is calling us to serve Him.

Today, February 21, as you pray, pray that you will grow in the Lord.

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