

Certainties That Should Sober Us

Introduction

- 1. We live in an age of change - many things are indefinite and uncertain.**
 - A. Many don't know what to turn to or what can be depended on.**
 - B. But some things are certain. (Death and taxes)**
- 2. Many are seeking happiness and security from material things and this should not be.**

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.

- 3. We must learn things God's Word says are certain.**

The Certainty of Sin

1. Sin is wickedness and disobedience and is sure to find us out.

Numbers 32:23 But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out.

2. It may not be revealed now – but certainly it will be at the judgment.

Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

Ecclesiastes 11:9 Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment.

A. We may deceive our friends - but not God.

Hebrews 4:13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

3. It is extremely foolish to even think that we can deceive God, or get by.

Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

The Certainty of Leaving Earthly Possessions

1. **Let's look at the sobering words of Paul.**
1 Timothy 6:7-10
 - A. **At the funeral of a Rich man one asked "How much did he leave?" The reply: - "All he had."**
2. **Material blessings are given in and for this world and should be used wisely and properly.**
3. **It doesn't matter how small or great - we still can't take it with us.**

Job 1:21 And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord."

- A. **Let's take a moment and consider the story of the Rich Fool in Luke 12.**
Luke 12:13-21
 - 1) **Note verses 20-21.**
4. **We can and should invest in heavenly treasures.**
Matthew 6:19-21

The Certainty of Death

1. It is an appointment of God.

Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

Ecclesiastes 8:8 No one has power over the spirit to retain the spirit, And no one has power in the day of death.....

A. It is a summons that must be met regardless of rich, poor, good, bad, young, or old.

B. It is as natural to die as it is to be born.

2. Death came because of Adam's sin and sin in general.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned —

3. It is not as bad as it might seem, for through it God would bless us.

1 Corinthians 15:35-44, 50

A. That is why Paul could say;

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

B. All the best blessings are on the other side of death.

4. Be wise - prepare for this inevitable call.

The Certainty of the Judgment

1. It is appointed by God.

Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

Acts 17:30-31 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

2. All will be present and will give an account.

Matthew 25:31-32 When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

A. Each one of us gives this account for our self - there is no way to escape it!

Romans 14:10-12

3. Our destiny is settled by the way we live.

Revelation 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

The Certainty of Reward or Punishment

1. **There will be a separation - good from bad.**

Matthew 25:32

2. **The righteous will be rewarded.**

Matthew 25:33-40

Revelation 22:14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

- A. **The confidence of the Apostle Paul can also be ours!**

2 Timothy 4:6-8

3. **It is also certain that the wicked will be punished.**

Matthew 25:41-46

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

- A. **And this will be forever and ever.**

Revelation 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

4. **We should take warning and live as God orders now and as a result we will be blessed forever.**

1 Peter 1:17

Conclusion

1. **We need to learn things that are certain.**
2. **We need to act accordingly - before it is too late.**

