

# Ecclesiastes 9 - Mortality of Man

## Man returns to the dust of the ground:

- Eccl 3:19-21** Men and beasts have the same destiny. Both are made from dust.
- Eccl 12:7** Man returns to the dust of the earth.
- Gen 3:4,19,22** Man from the "dust of the ground". The serpent's lie: "Ye shall not surely die"
- Job 34:14-15** "All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust."
- Psa 115:17** The dead cannot praise God.
- Psa 92:7** The wicked "shall be destroyed for ever."
- Psa 6:5** "in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?"
- Psa 49:20** "Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish."
- Psa 146:4** Man returns to the earth – "in that very day his thoughts perish"
- Psa 49:17-18** When a man dies "he shall carry nothing away..."
- Ezek 18:4,20** The soul that sins shall die. Also **Josh 10:28**
- Matt 10:28** Souls can be destroyed.
- Matt 16:27** "the Son of Man shall come... and THEN he shall reward every man"
- Rom 6:23** "the wages of sin is death" – We sin, we die.
- Rom 2:7** Immortality and eternal life is something that believers SEEK for. It is future.
- Heb 9:27** Men die once, then there is the judgment.
- Heb 11:13,39** The faithful died "not having received the promise". Their hope is future.

## Man was created in 2 stages: Gen 2:7

1. God formed him from the dust of the earth (like a potter)
2. God breathed air into him and he became a **living soul**

In the Hebrew, the words for "living soul" = "chayah nephesh" **2:7**

**Soul** in the Bible means a body capable of life. It is also used of animals (eg. **Gen 1:20,22** – "creatures" = Heb. "nephesh")

**Colour code:** Blue (God & Jesus); Red (sin/ devil/judgment of wicked); Green (Kingdom); Orange (important words & phrases); Purple (Israel & return of Jews to the land); Yellow (practical exhortation).

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**Why is this subject so important?** Once we appreciate that man is mortal, then many other doctrines follow. Immortality is given to the faithful when Christ returns to earth. Therefore the dead require resurrection first. Both dead and living stand before Christ at the judgment. All flesh is grass. Immortality is future. **Key verses:** **2 Cor 5:10; Isa 40:6-8; 2 Tim 4:1; Rom 2:5-9,16; Matt 16:27; Rev 20:6.**

## ECCLESIASTES 9.

**CHAPTER 9.**

x Like things happen to good and bad. 4 There is a necessity of death unto men. 7 Of comfort in this life. xx God's providence ruleth over all. x3 Wisdom is better than strength.

**F**OR all this <sup>3</sup> I considered in my heart even to <sup>b</sup> declare all this, <sup>c</sup> that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God: <sup>d</sup> no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that <sup>e</sup> is before them.

<sup>2</sup> **All things come alike to all: there is <sup>f</sup> one event to the righteous, and to the wicked; to the good and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth, and to him that sacrificeth not: as <sup>g</sup> is the good, so <sup>h</sup> is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as <sup>i</sup> he that feareth an oath.**

<sup>3</sup> **This <sup>j</sup> is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that <sup>k</sup> there is <sup>l</sup> one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil,**

and madness <sup>m</sup> is in their heart while they live, and after that <sup>n</sup> they go to the dead.

<sup>4</sup> ¶ For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion.

<sup>5</sup> For the living know that they shall die: but <sup>o</sup> the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for <sup>p</sup> the memory of them is forgotten.

<sup>6</sup> Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun.

<sup>7</sup> ¶ Go thy way, <sup>q</sup> eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; <sup>r</sup> for God now accepteth thy works.

<sup>8</sup> Let <sup>s</sup> thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment.

<sup>9</sup> **Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, <sup>t</sup> which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: <sup>u</sup> for that <sup>v</sup> is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun.**

<sup>10</sup> Whatsoever <sup>w</sup> thy hand findeth to do, <sup>x</sup> do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor <sup>y</sup> device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

The dead know nothing

The grave is a place of destruction and non existence: **Psa 49:14; Hos 13:14.**

Make the most of what God has given us. God wants us to live joyfully, knowing we are here for just a short time.

Work diligently whilst we are alive because when we are dead we cannot do anything but sleep

**Nowhere in the Bible do we read of an immortal soul. If we had an immortal soul there would be no need for a judgment:**

If the souls of the righteous go to heaven at death, where does the resurrection fit in? You cannot have the souls rewarded then have the judgment at a later time. That would be illogical.

**John 11:24** Martha said... "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

**Dan 12:1-2** "Many that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake."

**John 5:28-29** "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth..." cp. **Dan 12:1-2.**