

Psalm 39:4-5 - "LORD, *remind me* how brief my time on earth will be. *Remind me* that my days are numbered, and that my life is fleeing away.

Wishing your season away, or I can't wait until:

- I'm a teenager
- I turn 16 and drive
- Until the school year is over
- I get out of high school
- I get out of college
- I get married
- I get my house
- I have a baby
- my kids are out of diapers
- my kids are in school
- they get past the teen years
- the kids and grandkids come home

Number Your Days!

Psalm 90:12 - So *teach us* to *number our days*, that we may *gain a heart of wisdom*.

Understanding the brevity of life is an open door to gaining a heart of wisdom.

Numbering your days will provide a clarity or purpose and fearlessness in life that nothing else can.

Wisdom – the ways and purposes of God

- Wisdom is the capacity to make decisions today that don't bring *regret* in the future.
- If we approach the brevity of life without an eternal perspective, it will drive us toward hopelessness and unwise choices.

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11 –

1 I thought in my heart, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good." But that also proved to be meaningless.

2 "Laughter," I said, "is foolish. And what does pleasure accomplish?"

3 I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly—my mind still guiding me with wisdom. I wanted to see what was worthwhile for men to do under heaven during the few days of their lives.

4 I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards.

5 I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them.

6 I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees.

7 I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me.

8 I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired men and women singers, and a harem as well—the delights of the heart of man.

9 I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me. In all this my wisdom stayed with me.

10 ***I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure.*** My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor.

11 Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, ***everything was meaningless***, a chasing after the wind; ***nothing was gained*** under the sun.

Abraham – Isaac & Esau?

Genesis 25:29-34 –

29 Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished.

30 He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!"

31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"

33 But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.

34 Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau ***despised his birthright.***

Hebrews 12:16-17 – THE MESSAGE - Watch out for the Esau syndrome: trading away God's lifelong gift in order to satisfy a short-term appetite. You well know how Esau

later regretted that impulsive act and wanted God's blessing—but by then it was too late, tears or no tears.

***Esau Syndrome* – Trading away God's lifelong gift in order to satisfy a short-term appetite.**

Hebrews 11:24-27 –

24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

25 He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin **for a season**.

26 He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.