



The Brief-ness of Life

The briefness of our lives is meant to deeply shape the way we live.

Scripture repeatedly reminds us that our life is brief.

- Like grass (Is. 40:8)
- Like a breath or hand-breath (Psa. 39:5, 39:11, 144:4; Job 7:6).
- Like a shadow (Psa. 39:6, 102:11, 144:4; 1 Chr. 29:15; Job 14:2)
- Like nothing (Psa. 39:5)
- Like water spilled on the ground (2 Sam. 14:14)
- Like wind (Psa. 78:39)
- Like a runner, a swift ship, a swooping eagle (Job 9:25-26)
- Like a flower that withers (Job 14:2)
- Like a sigh (Psa. 90:9)
- Like a mist or vapor (Jam. 4:14)

Job 9:25-26: My days are swifter than a runner; they flee away; they see no good. They go by like skiffs of reed, like an eagle swooping on the prey.

What is meant to be the effect of this truth on us?

- See the futility of many of the living's ambitions—gaining wealth and possessions.
- See the emptiness of trusting in men.
- See how un-like God we are.
- Change the way we live.

The effect: The Christian is meant to reverse engineer life.

“Most men are not satisfied with the permanent output of their lives. Nothing can wholly satisfy the life of Christ within his followers except the adoption of Christ's purpose toward the world he came to redeem. Fame, pleasure and riches are but husks and ashes in contrast with the boundless and abiding joy of working with God for the fulfillment of his eternal plans. The men who are putting everything into Christ's undertaking are getting out of life its sweetest and most priceless rewards.”

J. Campbell White



Planning

All planning starts and ends with God.

- “Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and *your plans* will succeed” Prov. 16:3
- “The noble man makes noble plans, and by *noble plans* he stands” Isa. 32:8
- “In his heart *a man plans his course*, but the LORD determines his steps” Prov. 16:9

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” Prov. 3:5-6

Identify Worldly Influences/Forces

- Technology/Media
- Comfort and ease
- Diet/Unhealthy lifestyles
- Relationships/Who are your influences

Everyone has an Operating System

If you don't design your own life plan, chances are you will fall into someone else's plan. And guess what they have planned for you? Not much! Jim Rohn

Basic Tools of building an Operating System

- Understand Time
 - Use of time
 - Investment of time
 - Waste off time
- Current State /Future State



Current State

What direction are you currently heading?
Are you happy with your current job, career, finances?
What are your most important roles?
Do you have goals? Do you accomplish them?
How is your marriage?
Do your kids like you?
What do you want out of life?
What do you value?
Where do you see yourself in 5, 10, 15, 25, 50 years?
What are you reading?
How do you challenge yourself?
What are your biggest time wasters?
How much time do you spend in the Bible and in prayer?
How often do you exercise?
What is your 20/20 Vision?



Future State:

- Identifying your Roles
 - Personal life
 - Family life
 - Work life
- Identifying Goals
 - Personal life
 - Family life
 - Career
- Weekly Review
 - Find a spot
 - Practice
- Schedule
 - Planner
 - Time blocks
 - Learn to say no

50% of people have goals - 15% write them down - 1% review daily

"Everyone has a plan until they get punched in the mouth" Mike Tyson



Current State

Future State

Roles

Goals

Plan / Review

Schedule

'The world is run by tired men.'...If a Christian is not willing to rise early and work late, to expend greater effort in diligent study and faithful work, that person will not change a generation. Fatigue is the price of leadership. Mediocrity is the result of never getting tired.' J. Oswald Sanders