

Psalm 90: We Are So Brief

Read Psalm 90:1-6; 104:27-30

God is eternal. His existence is unlimited by beginning or ending. His everlastingness stretches infinitely in both directions, behind us and before us.

Outside of Him, we human creatures are quite the opposite. God created us at a point in time. And when we sinned against Him and separated ourselves from His life, death was the inevitable result, just as He warned us (Genesis 2:17).

We are so small, so brief. We are made from dust, and we soon crumble back to that dust (Genesis 3:19). The flood of time washes us away, and we are gone (Psalm 90:5a). We are like plants that blossom in the morning and are gone by evening. While we are blooming, we look bright and alive. But we wither and fade away so very quickly (vv.5b-6). Then it is as if we were never here.

A thousand years is nothing to Him (v.4). We bloom and die in a day. How should this reality shape our attitude toward God?

His perspective is always true. Very often, ours is more limited than we know. Our extreme smallness in time and space makes it impossible for us to see the whole picture. What seems so real and feels so real often is not. Our self-centeredness is an unseen lens that colors our perception, even when we don't realize it. It tints our understanding so constantly and completely that we never know it is there. Our fears and desires distort our view of the present and future.

God's Spirit is the only sure guide we have, and He is a real and constant presence with all who believe. But know that He usually whispers, and we will only hear if we listen.

Your ears will hear a word behind you, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left. (Isaiah 30:21, NASB)

His wisdom and guidance are always available.

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. (James 1:5, NASB)