

THE FRAILTY OF LIFE

Notes from a video sermon by Don Blackwell

1. APPLICATIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

1) Suffering

My pain compared to hell's pain.
(Revelation 14:11) "their torment ascends forever and ever"

2) We do not know what tomorrow holds

(James 4:14) "you do not know what will happen tomorrow"
(Luke 16:19-31) offers two alternatives.

3) The suffering of Jesus

I would do anything to stop my pain.
Jesus could have stopped His: (John 10:17-18)

4) The will of God

My accident was not caused by God.
There's free-will and consequences for our actions or another's actions.
Not all that happens is God's will.

2. BENEFITS OR BLESSINGS OF SUFFERING

1) Teaches us to pray

God answered my prayer. God said, "No."

2) Takes away the love of this world

(John 14:2) "I go to prepare a place for you"

3) Allows Christians' lights to shine

(Matthew 5:15) "it gives light to all who are in the house"
Cards and contributions were sent.

4) Helps you have a proper perspective on physical possessions

I thought of all that now I have to give up.
(Luke 18:22-23) Rich ruler loved his stuff and went away from Jesus.
(Matthew 19:23-24)

5) Brings out the best in people: (John 13:35)

6) Humbles us

Makes one realize how much you depend on God.
(1 Peter 5:6-7)

7) Makes you sympathetic to others: (Romans 12:15)

8) Purifies us

(2 Corinthians 13:5) It provides a time for self-examination.
(Psalm 119:67, v71)

3. WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

Attitude determines my happiness. (Philippians 4:11) "I have learned
in whatsoever state I am, to be content."
We make a choice to be happy or miserable.

1) Don't forget that you are a Christian

Life is short and I am going to heaven.

2) Realize God did not put us on this earth to be happy

"We are here to prepare ourselves for life after death ... where will
we spend eternity?"

(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) Be evangelistic

(Matthew 16:26) "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world,
and loses his own soul?"

At any moment I could be facing eternity, and all that matters is how I was
living a moment ago.

- What is the condition of my soul?

4. OBEY THE GOSPEL: hear, believe, repent, confess faith, be baptized,
be faithful.