

Ecclesiastes 9:1-6 A Life Worth Living

February 2, 2020 – Pastor Nick Neves

There is only one Being who has the power to undo every obstacle, and that Being is not you. How does your heart deal with living in a world where God is sovereign, and you are not?

Life gives us evidence that trying to live a good life does not always result in a life of blessing. What examples have you seen that confirm this? (see 2 Corinthians 12:1-10)

Ecclesiastes 9:2 reminds us that difficult circumstances are not only the experience of the wicked – all men are prone to experience struggle, regardless of their efforts to be righteous.

*Consider how this applies to one of the core doctrines of Christian faith: Salvation is by _____ alone.

What two reasons cause a person to think that they can earn their salvation by good works?

1. Man doesn't understand the _____ of his sin.
2. Man wants to believe he is in _____ of his own destiny.

The truth is quite the opposite...

Titus 3:4-6 – ⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Take note of the relief that can be drawn from this reality:

If you are suffering through difficult circumstances, it is NOT necessarily an indication that God is _____ with you!

_____ **is useful to God:** it can very well be used as a proof that sin has consequences, but it is also a tool that God uses to craft His beloved.

Verse 4 – Life, no matter how difficult it may seem to the one living it, still holds the potential of God working good in it.

Life is not in our hands – it is in the hands of One who is much wiser, One who is much more trustworthy than ourselves. My we see that the fact we are out of control will only be viewed as 'an evil' in so much as we do not see how wonderful it is that God IS in control!