

GOD'S TIMELINE

God knew us before we were born

1. Jer 1.5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." (NIV)

- a. before _____ was born, God knew him/her and had an individual plan for their life – He has one for you too

There is a time to be born

2. Eccl 3:1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: v2 A time to be born.....

We were created to know and serve the Lord

Jer 9:23 This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man gloat in his wisdom, or the mighty man in his might, or the rich man in his riches. 24 Let them boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the LORD who is just and righteous, whose love is unfailing, and that I delight in these things. I, the LORD, have spoken!

- a. **(Ph 3:10)** Paul's heart's cry – that I may know the Lord Jesus Christ
- b. marry, have family, career, interests – highest priority is to know the Lord
- c. **(Jn 3:3)** you must be BA – God calls us into a personal relationship with Him

**Jer 31.3 The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.
I Jn 4.19 We love him, because he first loved us.**

Good works do not save us, but we do good works to help others & minister to them

3. Eph 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. NIV

- a. talents given by God often to earn living, enjoy – part of their purpose always is to bless others

There is a time to die

**4. Eccl 3:2.....and a time to die.
Ja 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead.....**

- a. death – separation; at physical death, the spirit separates from the body; your spirit is immortal

Ecc 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

**As a Christian, once you know the truth, death is nothing to fear
Paul was in prison, he had been through so much**

**Ph 1:21 For to me, living is for Christ, and dying is even better.
v23 I'm torn between two desires: Sometimes I want to live, and sometimes I long to go and be with Christ. That would be far better for me,**

- b. (2 Cor 5:4) Bible calls next world – life; (2 Cor 5:8) transition instant – absent from the body is to be present with the Lord

2 Cor 5:8 And we are not afraid but are quite content to die, for then we will be at home with the Lord. TLB

God is not the Author of death, but He is there to welcome us home when we die

6. Ps 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

The greatest part of heaven will be seeing and being with the Lord Jesus who died for us

7. Ps 16:11 ‘...in Thy presence is fullness of joy’

- a. infinitely greater than all of the beauty of heaven will be seeing, hugging, being with and telling the Lord Jesus how much you love Him

We will be rewarded for doing the Lord’s work on the earth

Mt 25: 21 The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

- a. those who have been faithful with the talents given them by the Lord will be richly rewarded in heaven (no cloud with a harp)

Forever we will be with the Lord – we cannot imagine what He has planned

8. Ps 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

- a. our eternal destiny
- b. think of the incredible variety of things on this earth – what about the universe
- c. it will take all of eternity to get to know God in all of His glory