

**The fleeting nature of all temporal blessings**

- I. None was so blessed as Job, 1.2
  - A. But where was all that now?
  - B. And how suddenly was it all taken away! 1.13-19
  
- II. Job uses three illustrations to prove the fleeting nature of all our temporal blessings—even for the godly. Therefore, as he said before (vv.22-24), it's impossible to distinguish the wicked from the righteous by their temporal blessings and condition.
  
- III. How quickly the comfort and security of all our worldly blessings might be lost! Job was the richest man in the East and had a large family and he lost everything and everyone in one day (cp. Rev 18.8, 10).
  - A. This teaches us to not to put any hope in the things of life since, sooner or later, everything must go. Every temporal comfort withers. It's foolish to put our hope for peace and enduring happiness in anything temporal, Ecc 1.14; Lk 12.13-21
  
  - B. This teaches us to prepare for change. Prepare your heart now to let all your blessings go by holding them with an open hand, 1Cor 7.29-31
  
  - C. This teaches us how transitory time itself is, Eph 5.15-16. Don't live as if you have time to kill. Redeem every moment for eternity.

**The necessity of putting your hope in the Eternal God**

- I. The problem with hoping in anything temporal is that it's in constant motion. Today's joy is tomorrow's sorrow. Nothing lasts.
  - A. But the beauty of putting all your hopes in God is that He's eternal
    - 1. His saving love is everlasting, Jer 31.3
    - 2. His pardon is forever, Jer 31.34
    - 3. His covenant favor never ceases, Isa 55.3; Jer 32.40
    - 4. His keeping grace will never cast us out, Jn 6.37
    - 5. His promise to come for us will soon be fulfilled, Rev 22.20
  
- II. Therefore we must put all our hopes in God, for there is no one and nothing else who can satisfy our hopes. We must hope in God:
  - A. for life's necessities, Ps 23.1; Phil 4.19
  - B. for safety in trail, Ps 34.19
  - C. for a godly spouse, Pr 18.22
  - D. for our children's spiritual welfare, Gen 17.7
  - E. for peace of conscience, Isa 1.18; Eph 2.14; Heb 9.14
  - F. for victory over sin, Rom 8.37
  - G. for blessing from the means of grace, Ps 50.15
  - H. for safe passage to heaven when life ends, Lk 16.22
  
- III. See how fleeting all our temporal things are! Broken cisterns. Dry riverbeds. Empty promises.
  
- IV. See how permanent, stable, and immovable our God is! The unshifting Rock. The God of the covenant of grace. A strong Tower for refuge. A Shield for our protection.
  
- V. Where's *your* hope today?
  - A. Everything in life will ultimately disappoint. Everything in life that you're tempted to hold on to and hope in instead of God will ultimately pass away and leave you alone and helpless.
  - B. God alone is the hope that won't make us ashamed, Rom 5.5
  - C. Therefore pull all your hope from every other confidence, especially yourself, and place it whole and entire on Him, Ps 146.5