

The Later Years: Lasting Legacy?
The Seasons of Life Pt 4
Bud Wrenn 4/1/07

THE 60s: THE THIRD QUARTER

Eccles. 7:10 Don't long for "the good old days," for you don't know whether they were any better than today.

CAPACITY

Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to those who are tired and worn out; he offers strength to the weak. ...But those who wait on the Lord will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

When do I stop doing those things that have always defined me?
Do I have enough time to do all the things I've dreamed about?

MORTALITY 2

Eccles. 7:4 A wise person thinks much about death, while the fool thinks only about having a good time now.

Why am I so interested now in the obituaries, how they died and what kind of lives they lived?
Who will be around me when I die?
Which one of us will go first?

WANING CONFIDENCE

Hebrews 6:18 we who have fled to him for refuge can take new courage, for we can hold on to his promise with confidence.

Are the things I have believed in really capable of taking me to the end?
What do I regret?
What are my major satisfactions?

THE 70s - 80s: THE HOME STRETCH

Eccles. 7:8 Finishing is better than starting. Patience is better than pride.

SIGNIFICANCE

Proverbs 20:29 The glory of the young is their strength; the gray hair of experience is the splendor of the old.

Does anyone realize, or care, who I once was?

Is my story important to anyone?
Is there anything I can still contribute?

INDEPENDENCE

2 Cor. 4:16-17 That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. [17] For our present troubles are quite small and won't last very long. ...

How much of my life can I still control?

DEATH & DYING

2 Cor. 4:16-18 Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles ... produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see right now; rather, we look forward to what we have not yet seen.

Why this anger and irritability?
Is God really there for me?
Am I ready to face death?
Heaven - what is it like?

LEGACY: WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT

2 Tim. 4:6-8 As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. ... I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me.....

What have I done that will outlive me?