

Escaping Gravity

Ecclesiastes 9:13-10:20



Gravity

What does gravity do? What does gravity affect?

Gravity affects every aspect of humanity

Body / Mind / Soul → decay

What can we do about it?

Context: Wisdom was highly valued

“By wisdom the Lord laid the earth’s foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place...” Proverbs 3:19

“Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold.” Proverbs 3:13-14

“Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold, for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her.” Proverbs 8:10-11

“For through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life.” Proverbs 9:11

Ecclesiastes 9:13-10:20

Gravity pulls everything down

9:13-10:7: Good is so easily ruined by people

→ Be careful when you are around foolish people/leaders

→ Especially foolish rulers who honor and empower the wrong people

10:8-20: Especially through foolishness and foolish leaders

→ And there is no escape

The Main Point

Gravity pulls everything down

Body / Relationships / Soul

Not even wisdom and skill are enough / Not even a fresh start

A little bad spoils a whole bunch of good!

Escaping Gravity and Escape Velocity

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. Romans 8:20-21

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 5:19-21

In our world, people and natural causes ruin what is good

Jesus reverses decay and brings flourishing

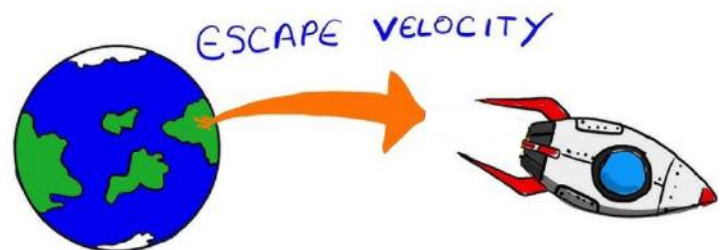
“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:3-4

Jesus conquered sin and death

He gives that victory to everyone who is in Jesus

admits that gravity rules them (sin and death)

puts their trust in Jesus’ death and resurrection



Application

Admit the problem of decay in EVERYTHING

Death: the natural decay of everything

Sin: decay of the human heart

Affects our bodies, our relationships, our souls

There is no human or natural solution!

Trust in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection

The only One who has conquered sin and death

Jesus Christ solved the unsolvable!

“The old order of things has passed away. He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!””

Revelation 21:4-5

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12

He ... asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Acts 16:30-31

Jesus’ death and resurrection solved the unsolvable (sin and death)

He offers that freedom to all who trust in Him

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Where do you experience the gravity or decay of this world that is inescapable?
2. What or whom do you tend to turn to when you are aware of gravity and decay?
3. What does it mean for you to put your trust in Jesus, who has conquered sin and death? Have you done that? If not, what is stopping you?
4. Who do you know who needs to hear the good news of Jesus victory over sin and death? What is a way to tell them?

Conversation starters

What gives you a hope in a world where everything decays, and everything dies?

Would you consider Jesus who is the only person who has conquered decay and death?