

HERE AND NOW

The family and I have been taking some evening walks recently. One of our common paths takes on a route that loops through an extensive cemetery. Up and down the hills are gravestones dating back to the 1700s. It is a sobering reminder of our humanity and of eternity. As you read the dates and inscriptions there, you can't help but ponder. Some gravestones are newer. Other places have the ground freshly dug.

On the other hand, many stones are crumbling into disrepair. Monuments of the dead are toppled over and broken. Some inscriptions are so worn it is unclear whose grave it marks.

Psalm 10:16-18

The Lord is king forever and ever;
the nations perish from his land.

O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted;
you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear
to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed,
so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

In a turmoil-filled world, we often focus on the here and now. Even in death, much thought is placed into our resting place here. Yet, scripture teaches us always to keep an eternal perspective. The Psalmist reminds us that life as we know it is fleeting, but God is eternal. When there is chaos, the Lord knows and acts. It is his eternal presence and acts of justice that relieve the fears of man and take away the power of the wicked. We need to be reminded of this.

As you face life this week in a crazy and broken world, remember:

1. The Lord is king forever!
2. He cares for his people.
3. He acts according to his righteousness to bring true justice.

That is excellent news. That news releases us from the here and now and allows us to praise the Lord forever.

Shalom,
Ryan