

Back in the 70's the classic rock band Kansas recorded the song, Dust in the Wind. The refrain of the song goes, "All we are is dust in the wind." The music is beautiful but the lyrics are depressing: "All we do crumbles to the ground, though we refuse to see...nothing lasts forever but the earth and sky; it slips away, and all your money won't another minute buy." The song reveals an important truth about human nature. Man has a hunger for things this world cannot satisfy and a longing for eternity that death interrupts.

The same problem is recognized by Solomon, the wise man of the Old Testament. He observed that no matter how much a man enjoys life, no matter how much he accomplishes or how many people celebrate his work, he must soon depart this world and be forgotten. Our lives, our memories our joys, sorrows and accomplishments fade away.

Into this depressing reality came Jesus who said, "One greater than Solomon is here." Solomon was wise enough to diagnose the problem, but not able to fix it. But Jesus, by His death on the cross for the sins of the world and His resurrection back to life on the third day, has totally obliterated the power of death. By rising from the grave, Jesus has demonstrated that He has mastery over it. Talk about a game changer!

It is important that we understand that Jesus resurrection to life is not merely a one time event, unique in this world, but the foretaste of more to come. In other words, what Jesus accomplished in the middle of history, is what He promises will be true for all of us at the end of history. In John 5:26-30 He says, For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth -- those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

Because Jesus has broken the power of death, it no longer has the final word. The promise of Christ to every one of us, is that He will raise us up on the last day. Death will not have the final word. Our lives are not futile and everything we do in this life has an impact on our eternal life in the resurrection. Every sermon preached for his glory, every diaper changed or dish washed in love, every kind word given to the discouraged will count. Jesus will gather up all the lose ends and broken fragments of our lives, even those we've forgotten and not one of them will be missing. He will take it all and give it back to us on that wonderful day. So, go forth and live today, not merely in light of tomorrow, but in light of eternity.