

Bioethics and the Christian Life

QUESTIONS: WEEK 12

Chapter 7 – Approaching Death: Dying as a Way of Life (169-184) Part 1

1. Does Scripture teach us to meditate on the brevity and end of life? Where? (169)
2. What effects has new medical technology had on end of life issues? Assess these (169-70)
3. What are some of the unbiblical notions about death that our culture teaches? (172-3)
4. How has the hospice movement added to the cultural conversation about death? (173)
5. What aspect of Kübler-Ross's approach is compatible with a Christian attitude? Incompatible? (174)
6. How does the Christian face the question of death as an enemy or friend? (174)
7. Why should Christians prepare for death? How should the Christian prepare for death? What are the *ars moriendi*? (174-5)
8. Is a sudden death good? Why or why not? (175)
9. How may we ameliorate these negatives of sudden death? (175-6)
10. Why is faith first among the virtues, especially in facing death? Which Scripture supports this? (176)
11. How can present faith be a preparation for an event that may be very far away? How may faith be cultivated? (176-7)
12. What is Christian hope, and how do we tend to work against it? (177-8)
13. How can concentration on this life be remedied? How should we respond to the charge that heavenly-mindedness makes us no earthly good? (178-9)
14. What part does prayer play in preparing for death? (180)
15. What was Paul's attitude toward this life? (180-1)
16. Which aspects of love directly concern preparation for death? (181)
17. What in our culture and in our natures works against this biblical covenantal idea of the importance of living in relation to God and others? (181-2)
18. How can one prepare for the loss of independence in old age and in the dying process? (182)
19. Why is being in a state of extreme dependence difficult? (182-3)
20. Why is love as giving rather than receiving also important? What should we give the dying? (183)
21. How can the Christian community help overcome this isolation? (183-4)