



# Lessons from the House of Mourning

Ecclesiastes 7:1–4

# Lessons for the Living

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- The house of mourning CAN become a house of rejoicing.
  - “as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing” (2 Cor. 6:10).
  - Rev. 14:13; 1 Thess. 4:13–18.
  - For this person, the day of death is truly better than the day of birth.

# Lessons for the Living

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- Mourning CAN be very good for the soul.
  - “For by a sad countenance the heart is made better” (Eccl. 7:3).
  - Psalms 119:67, 71.
  - “For that is the end of all men; and the living will take it to heart” (Eccl. 7:2).

# Lessons for the Living

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- Tender hearts can often be found in the house of mourning.
  - So let's preach to them, talk to them, answer their questions, set a good example.
  - It's an open door (Col. 4:2–4) to preach the word.

# Lessons for the Living

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- Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs MAY become more meaningful than ever.
  - Not too difficult for the spiritually minded to make melody in their hearts (Eph. 5:19), to sing with the spirit and understanding (1 Cor. 14:15), and to sing with grace in their hearts (Col. 3:16).

# Lessons for the Living

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- One individual touches MANY lives.
  - And that means “ordinary” people, too, people like Dorcas (Acts 9:36–39).
  - Go to the visitation, the funeral, and listen to the comments people make, and how many make them.
  - Lots of folks are depending on YOU!

# Lessons for the Living

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- Evidence for God is abundant in the house of mourning.
  - In what is said about the deceased—if this person was transformed by the “living and powerful” word of God (Hebrews 4:12).
  - In what is often an overwhelming number of gestures of comfort, compassion, and encouragement.

# Lessons for the Living

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- EACH and EVERY gesture of kindness, compassion, comfort, sympathy, and encouragement is GREATLY appreciated.
  - Receivers know it; let's make sure we remember it as givers.
  - “As we have opportunity, let us...” (Gal. 6:10).
    - Show compassion, comfort, sympathy, encouragement, tenderheartedness, etc.
    - “Weep with those who weep” (Rom. 12:15).