

You brought nothing into the world, and you'll take nothing out!

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

➤ Intro: you must die

- **Heb. 9:27** appointed for men to die once, then judgment
- **illus.: sayings of men**
 - **saying:** Death is the great equalizer (all men = at death)
 - **saying:** Death keeps no calendar (George Herbert) (can't put off, schedule, do when convenient)
 - **saying:** Death is common to all (Latin Proverb) (all have in common)
- **title: You brought nothing into the world, and you'll take nothing out!**
 - **Pam:** I thought it was, I brought you into the world and I can take you out! (Cosby)

➤ You brought nothing into the world, and you take nothing out

- **1 Tim. 6:6-10** brought nothing in, take nothing out (**vs. 7**)
 - **illus.: story, girls born:** come out naked, possess nothing, do nothing other than breath and scream and cry
 - **illus. take family into see deceased:** death, hospital, empty shell, left without taking anything
- **Job and Solomon:**
- - **Job 1:21** context: naked came, naked return / Lord gives and takes away / blessed name of Lord
 - **What would it do for you to have this attitude in everything you do?**
 - perspective life on earth, possessions, material wealth, human relationships
 - **illus.: Lee Atwater,** You can acquire all you want and still feel empty!
 - **illus.: Ross Perot,** former Presidential candidate, an amazing entrepreneur
 - no matter what happens, positive attitude, bless God
- - **Ja. 5:1-3** moth and rust destroy
- - **Lk. 12:16-21** rich man, tore down barns and built more, eat drink and be happy
- - **Ec. 5:15-16** born with nothing, leave with nothing / take nothing from the fruit of our labor
 - **What would it do for you to have this attitude in everything you do?**
 - right perspective about work and \$, wealth - men especially need, identity rest with work
 - can't take it with you, use it and enjoy it while you are here
- - **Ec. 2:21** die, things you've accumulated are left to another, not worked for them - vanity, evil
- - **1 Tim. 6:17-19** rich, enjoy, use to do good
- **application:** can't take the physical or material with you when you die
 - physical isn't what's important in life
- 2 - **warning:** the message of the Bible is different than the world's message
 - **illus.: American Children Taught Materialism — what are we teaching our children?**

➤ Your souls is all you can take when you die (salvation) — spiritual vs. physical (above)

- **Matt. 16:26** what profit, gain the whole world and forfeit soul
 - you will depart with your soul, or without it
- - **2 Cor. 5:1-10** clothed or naked, eternally damned or eternal life, walk by faith, judgment
- - **Rev. 16:15** keep clothes by remaining faithful, not naked (shamed)
 - **rf - Rev. 7:14** washed and made white, blood of the Lamb

➤ Death is the debt you owe for sin. — 2 ways to pay, death with Christ or death hell

- **two ways debt can be paid: physical death, or death with Christ in baptism**
- - **Rom. 6:23** wages of sin is death / God's gift is eternal life in Christ
- - **Rom. 6:3-7** in Christ / buried, died, crucified, united / freed from sin — **Rom. 6:23** gift, eternal life
- **application: die with Christ today, live with Christ forever**

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **What you have** isn't what's important, rather **who you are** is what's most important in life.
- **All that matters in life is your relationship with God** - that's what you'll have for eternity.
 - **application:** when you die, all you can **take with you is *who you are***
 - you are **either a faithful Christian or a sinner**
 - you are **either saved or lost**
- **Life on earth is short, eternity is forever:**
 - if eternity was just 1 million years, life on earth would be **.01%** of our existence
 - if eternity was just 1 billion years, life on earth would be **.00001%** of our existence
 - if eternity was just 1 trillion years, life on earth would be **.00000001%** of our existence
 - if eternity was just 1 quadrillion years, life on earth would be **.00000000001%** of our existence
 - **but since eternity is forever (never ending), life on earth will seem like 0% of our existence**
- **Death is the debt you owe for sin. If you die with Christ** before departing this life, you'll live forever.
- **inv.:**
 - **Rev. 14:13** blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on, rest from their labors, deeds follow with them
 - **die with Jesus today, so you can live with Him forever**