

“Seven Ways To Shorten Your Life”

⇒ **Text:** Proverbs 10:27

⇒ **Intro:**

- Today, much emphasis is put on ways one can length their period of time on this earth.
- Most of them have to do with maintenance of the human body.
- Some of the recommendations are –
 - Not to smoke
 - Not to drink alcoholic beverages.
 - Get plenty of rest.
 - Exercise regularly
 - Eat a healthy diet, less meat and more fresh fruit and vegetables, whole grains, no processed sugar.
- While these recommendations are important, they leave out the most important factor of all which is a person’s relationship with God.
- Our verse tells us “The fear of the LORD prolongeth days”.
 - The person who fears the Lord is promised a to have his days upon this earth extended.
 - The Bible tells us the “wages of sin is death”.
 - Sin takes its toll on the human body lessens your days on this earth.
 - However, a person who fears the Lord will be less likely to sin because he fears what the Lord will do to him.
- This morning we want to see from the Word of God “**Seven Ways To Shorten Your Life**” and as a result hopefully avoid them.

⇒ **I. YOU CAN SHORTEN YOUR LIFE BY DISOBEDIENCE**

- The men who disobeyed God and looked into the ark shortened their lives.
 - The Lord’s command – **Numbers 4:17-20.**
 - Disobedience – **I Samuel 6:19.**

⇒ **II. YOU CAN SHORTEN YOUR LIFE BY DISHONESTY**

- **See Jeremiah 17:11**
- Achan brought death to himself and his family by dishonesty.
 - **See Joshua 7:19-21, 24-26.**

⇒ **III. YOU CAN SHORTEN YOUR LIFE BY REBELLION**

- Korah shortened his life by rebellion.
 - **See Numbers 16:1-2,31-33.**
- Hananiah shortened his life by rebellion.
 - **See Jeremiah 28:15-17.**

⇒ **IV. YOU CAN SHORTEN YOUR LIFE BY HARDENING YOUR NECK (STUBBORNNESS)**

- **See Proverbs 29:1**
- Stubbornness has shortened the lives of many people.
 - Of the generation that came out Egypt all died in the wilderness except Joshua and Caleb because of being stiffed neck and rebellious.

- ⇒ **V. YOU CAN SHORTEN YOUR LIFE BY LYING TO GOD.**
 - Ananias and Sapphira shortened their lives by lying to God.
 - **See Acts 5:1-10.**
- ⇒ **VI. YOU CAN SHORTEN YOUR LIFE LIVING AFTER THE FLESH**
 - **See Romans 8:13.**
 - Living after the flesh means doing what the sinful old nature desires.
 - This has shortened the lives of many people.
 - **Samson**
- ⇒ **VII. YOU CAN SHORTEN YOUR LIFE BY NOT JUDGING YOURSELF.**
 - **See I Cor. 11:28-32**
- ⇒ **Conclusion:**
 - The Word of God asks in Ecclesiastes 7:17, “**why shouldst thou die before thy time?**”
 - The answer is if you don’t want to die before your time then –
 - **Don’t be**
 - Disobedient,
 - Dishonest,
 - Rebellious,
 - Stubborn, Full of lies,
 - Living after the flesh
 - And failing to judge yourself.
 - **Instead put your trust completely in the Lord Jesus Christ and let Him make you** –
 - Obedient
 - Honest
 - Yielded
 - Submissive
 - Truthful
 - One who lives after the Spirit and judges himself.