



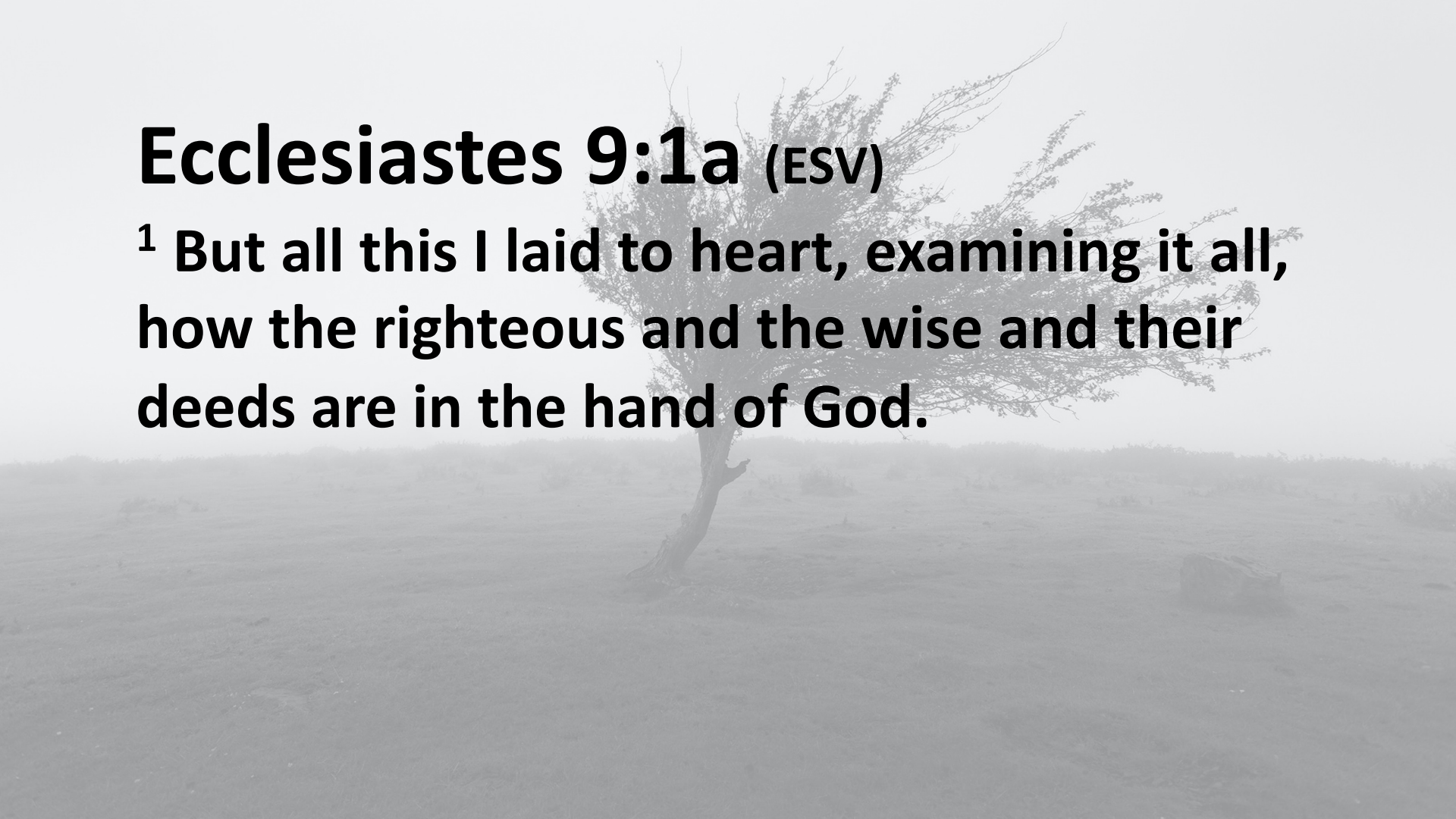
ECCLESIASTES

A grayscale photograph of a lone, gnarled tree standing in a vast, flat, and desolate landscape. The tree's branches are sparse and appear to be blowing in the wind. The ground is a uniform, light gray, suggesting a dry or sandy terrain. The background is a flat horizon line under a pale, overcast sky. The overall mood is one of isolation and starkness.

Death and Life

Ecclesiastes 9:1a (ESV)

**¹ But all this I laid to heart, examining it all,
how the righteous and the wise and their
deeds are in the hand of God.**

A grayscale background image of a tree in a field. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The ground is a flat, open field, and the sky is a uniform light gray. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

A lone, gnarled tree stands in a vast, open landscape under a heavy, grey sky. The ground is flat and appears to be a mix of dirt and sparse vegetation. The overall atmosphere is somber and contemplative, with a strong sense of isolation. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Ecclesiastes 9:1b (ESV)

Whether it is love or hate, man does not know; both are before him.

Ecclesiastes 9:2-3 (ESV)

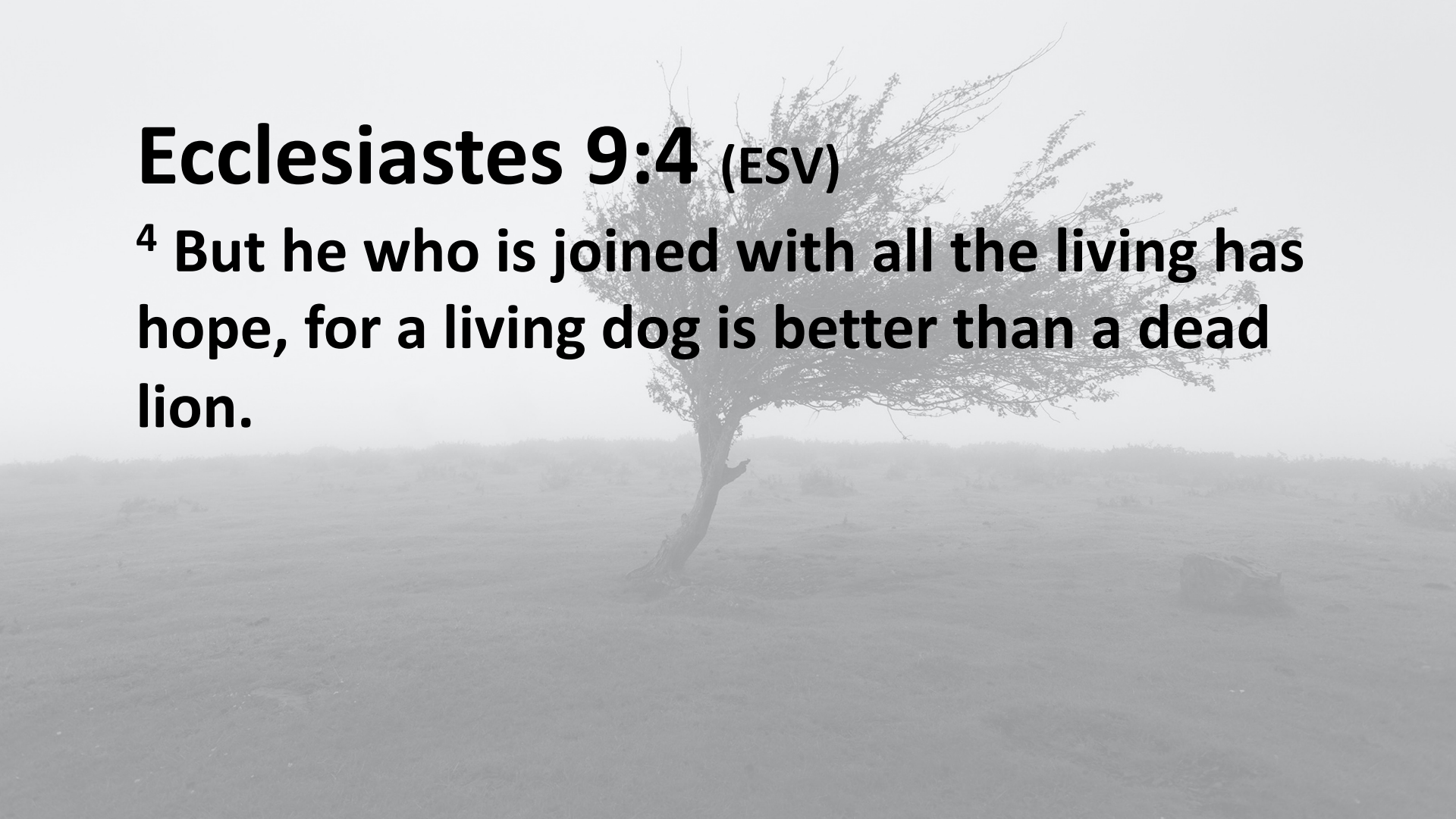
² It is the same for all, since the same event happens to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil, to the clean and the unclean, to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As the good one is, so is the sinner, and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath.

Ecclesiastes 9:2-3 (ESV)

³ This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that the same event happens to all. Also, the hearts of the children of man are full of evil, and madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

Ecclesiastes 9:4 (ESV)

⁴ But he who is joined with all the living has hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion.



Ecclesiastes 9:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. ⁶ Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished, and forever they have no more share in all that is done under the sun.

A lone, gnarled tree stands in a misty, desolate landscape. The tree is the central focus, with its branches reaching out to the right. The ground is flat and appears to be covered in low-lying vegetation or grass. The background is a hazy, overcast sky, creating a somber and atmospheric mood. The overall scene is monochromatic, with various shades of gray and muted colors.

Death is severe and sure

Ecclesiastes 9:7-10 (ESV)

⁷ Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do. ⁸ Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head. ⁹ Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your

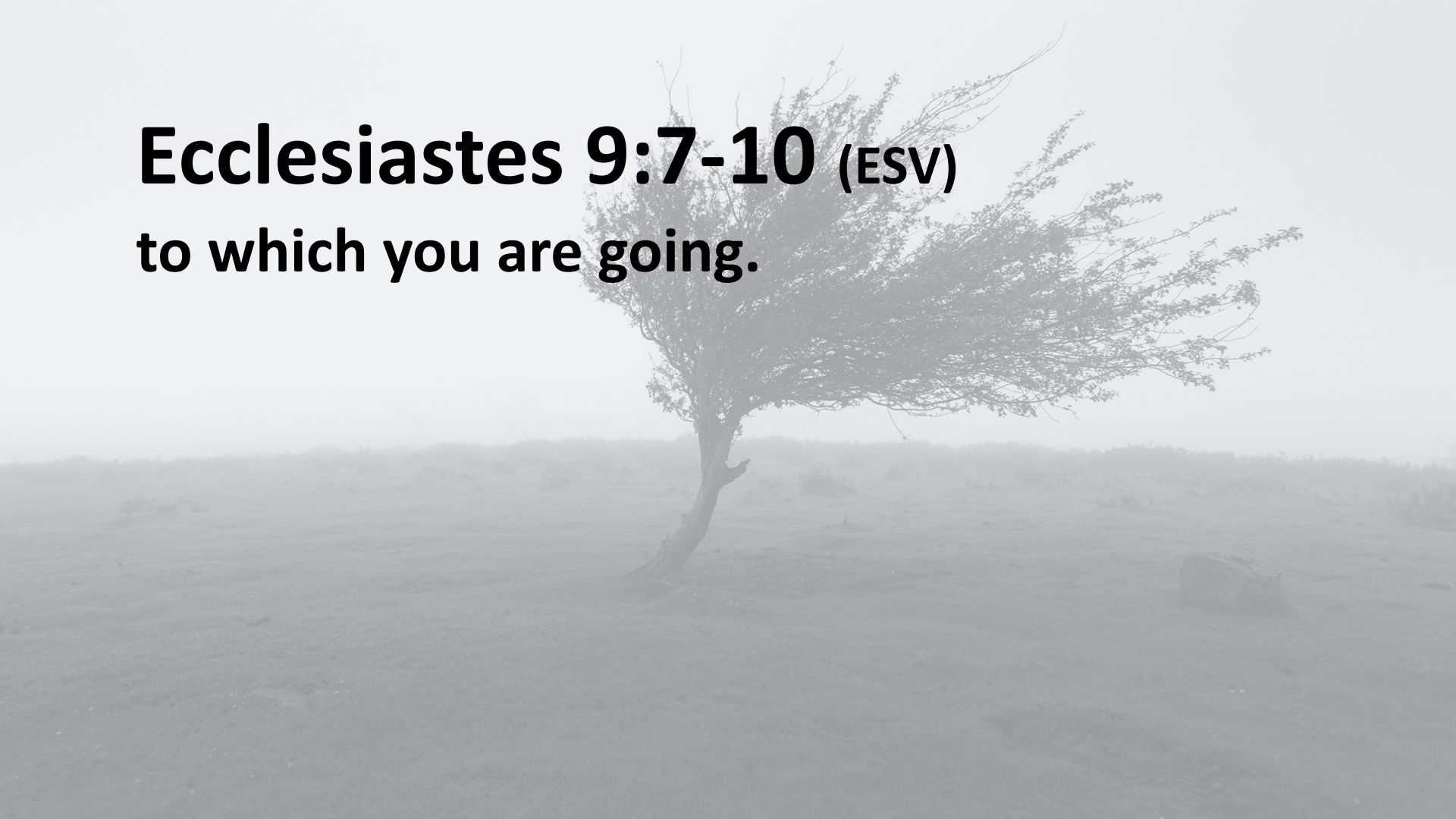
Ecclesiastes 9:7-10 (ESV)

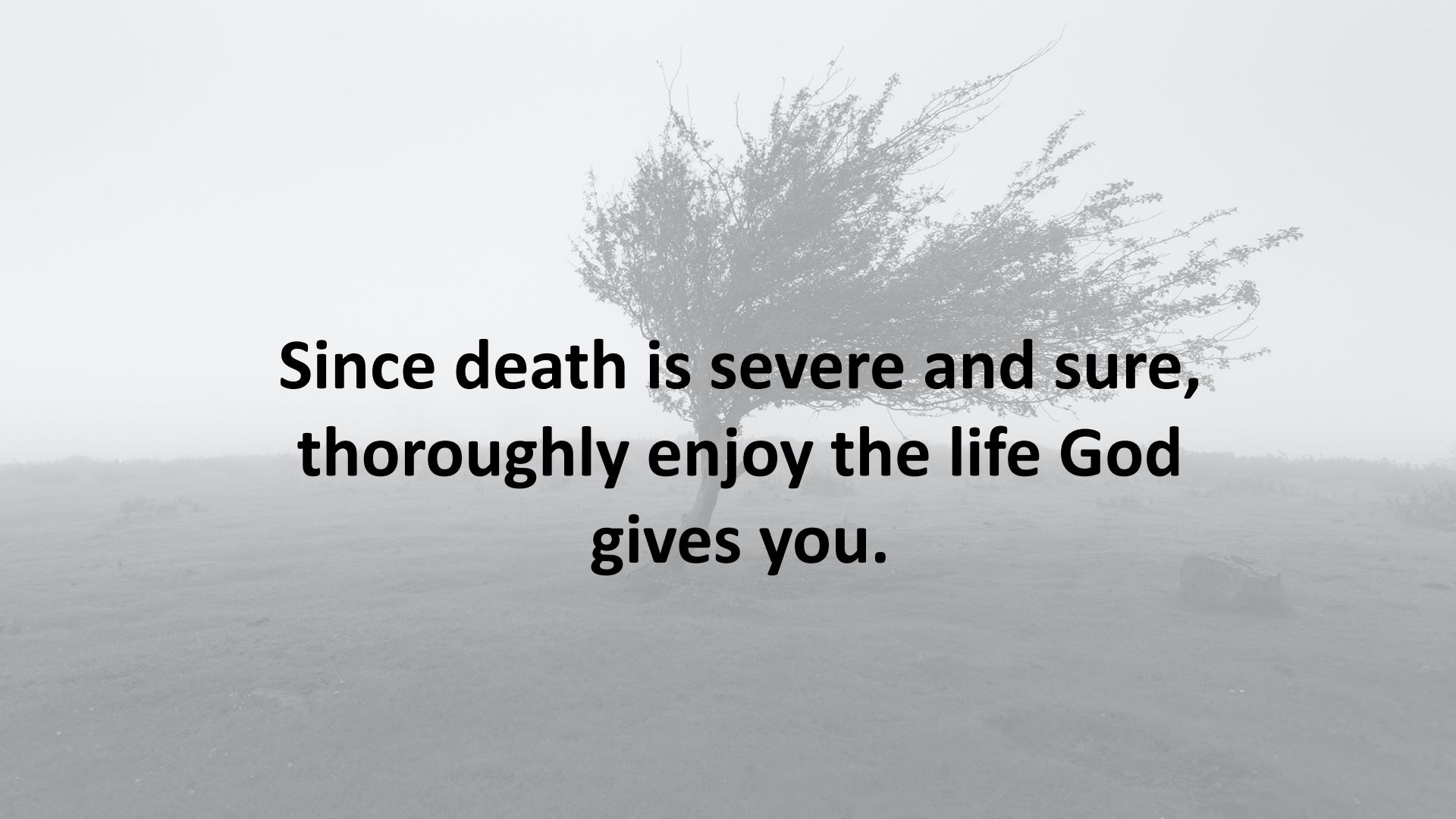
vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun.

¹⁰ Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol,

Ecclesiastes 9:7-10 (ESV)

to which you are going.



A grayscale photograph of a tree in a foggy or misty landscape. The tree is the central focus, with its branches reaching out. The background is a soft, hazy expanse of land and sky, creating a serene and somewhat somber atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the tree and the landscape.

**Since death is severe and sure,
thoroughly enjoy the life God
gives you.**

1 Corinthians 15:54-57 (ESV)

⁵⁴When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

1 Corinthians 15:54-57 (ESV)

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:35-39 (ESV)

³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

Romans 8:35-39 (ESV)

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

A grayscale background image of a tree in a field. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The ground is a flat, open field, and the sky is a uniform light gray. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

Romans 8:35-39 (ESV)

³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

If you would like to talk to Chuck about the sermon, please feel free to call him or email him.



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