Bible questions plan week 40 day 7

Psalm 49

World English Bible British Edition

We are encouraged to think seriously about the end of our lives.

1 Hear this, all you peoples.
Listen, all you inhabitants of the world,
2 both low and high,
rich and poor together.
3 My mouth will speak words of wisdom.
My heart will utter understanding.
4 I will incline my ear to a proverb.
I will solve my riddle on the harp.
5 Why should I fear in the days of evil,
when iniquity at my heels surrounds me?

What should all people listen to?

6 Those who trust in their wealth,
and boast in the multitude of their riches—
7 none of them can by any means redeem his brother,
nor give God a ransom for him.
8 For the redemption of their life is costly,
no payment is ever enough,
9 that he should live on forever,
that he should not see corruption.

What can't be achieved with riches?

10 For he sees that wise men die;
likewise the fool and the senseless perish,
and leave their wealth to others.

What happens to everyone in the end?

11 Their inward thought is that their houses will endure forever,
and their dwelling places to all generations.
They name their lands after themselves.
12 But man, despite his riches, doesn't endure.
He is like the animals that perish.

13 This is the destiny of those who are foolish,
and of those who approve their sayings.
14 They are appointed as a flock for Sheol.*
Death shall be their shepherd.
The upright shall have dominion over them in the morning.
Their beauty shall decay in Sheol,*
far from their mansion.
15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of Sheol,*
for he will receive me.
** Sheol is the place of the dead.*

What hope does the psalmist have that is different from the destiny of the foolish?

16 Don't be afraid when a man is made rich,
when the glory of his house is increased;
17 for when he dies he will carry nothing away.
His glory won't descend after him.
18 Though while he lived he blessed his soul—
and men praise you when you do well for yourself—
19 he shall go to the generation of his fathers.
They shall never see the light.
20 A man who has riches without understanding,
is like the animals that perish.

What is the use of riches without understanding?