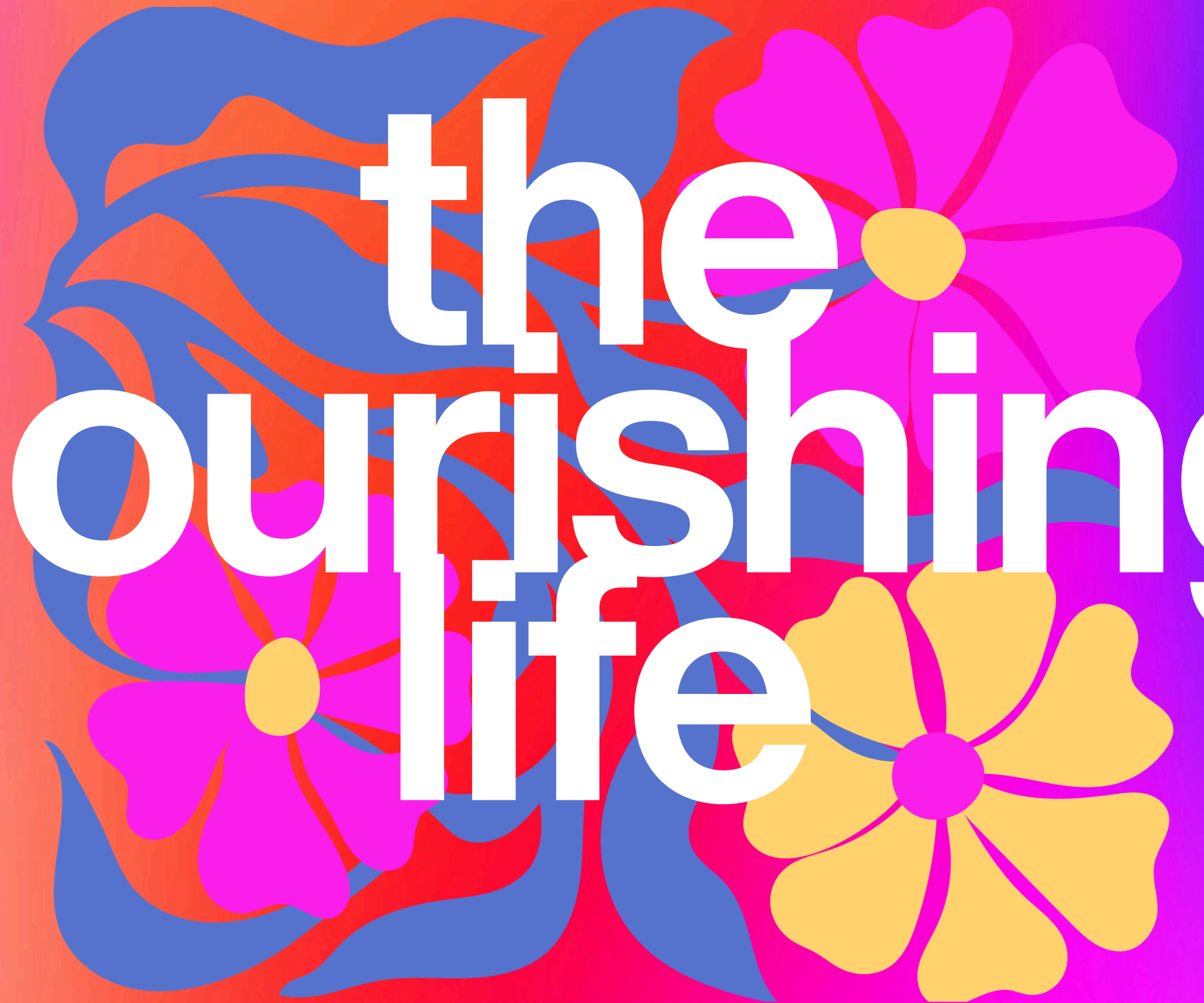


Summer in Proverbs

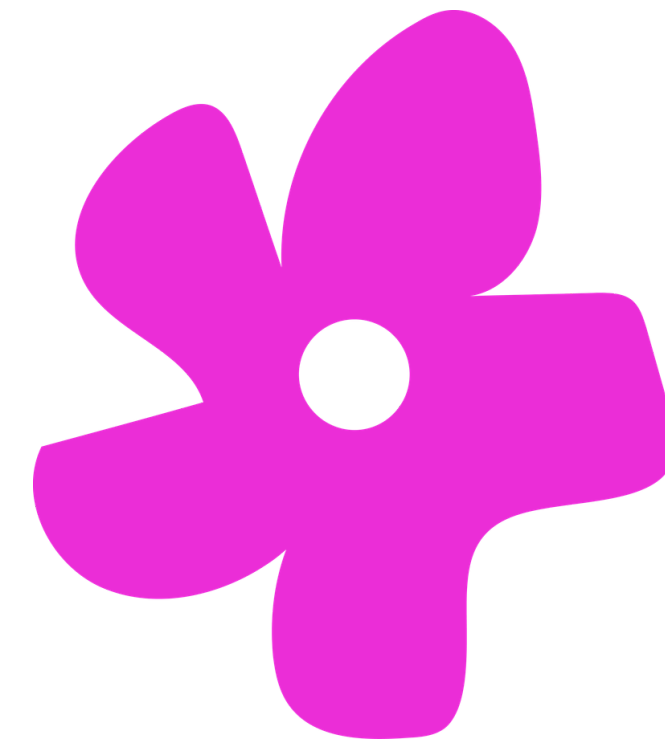


the flourishing life

16 August 2026

Steve Carroll

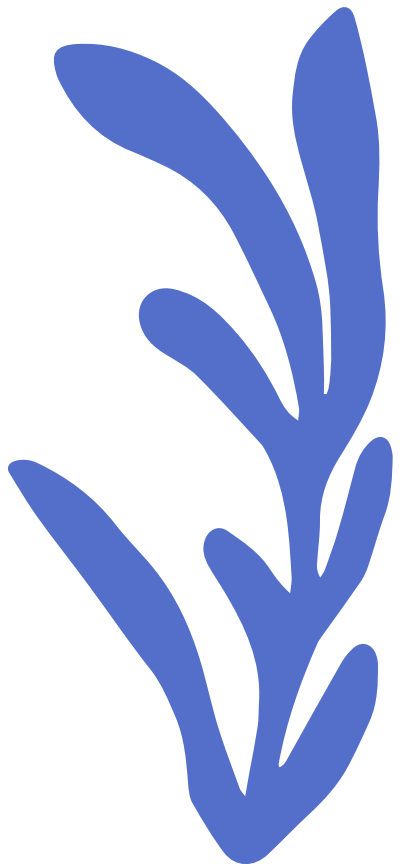
Life and Death



What is it?

Each heart knows its own bitterness,
And no-one else can share his joy.
The house of the wicked will be destroyed,
But the tent of the upright will flourish.
There is a way that seems right to a man,
But in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 14:10-12

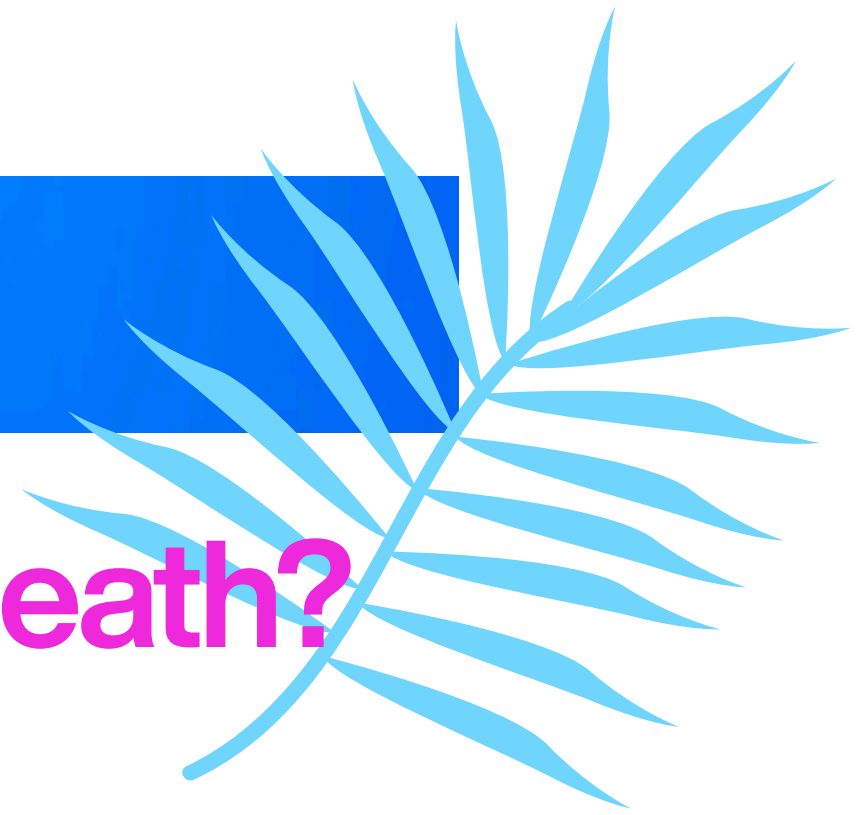


Outline

1. How did people at this time understand death?

2. How does Proverbs help us?

3. What is the Christian answer?



Definition of *mawet*

- a. Biologically – the end of natural life
- b. Mythologically – as a power agent or principle
- c. Symbolically – as the loss of joyous existence.



**Multitudes who sleep
in the dust of the earth
will awake: some to
everlasting life, some
to shame and
everlasting contempt.**

Daniel 12:2

**I know that my
redeemer lives, and
that in the end he
will stand on the
earth.**

Job 19:25

Francis Bacon



... the more you love life, the
more aware you are of death.
... art is a way of distracting
yourself from the reality of
death.

How does Proverbs help?



a. Avoid adultery

Proverbs 2:16-18

It (wisdom) will save you from the ways of wicked men,
from the wayward wife with her seductive words,
who has left the partner of her youth
and ignored the covenant she made before God.
For her house leads down to death
and her paths to the spirits of the dead.

How does Proverbs help?



b. Wisdom

Proverbs 3:13-16.

Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding, for she is more profitable than silver, and yields better returns than gold.

She is more precious than rubies; nothing you can desire can compare with her.

Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour.

How does Proverbs help?



c. Discipline.

Proverbs 5:11-14

At the end of your life you will groan,
when your flesh and body are spent.
You will say “How I hated discipline!
How my heart spurned correction?
I would not obey my teachers
Or listen to my instructors.
I have come to the brink of utter ruin
In the midst of the whole assembly.”

How does Proverbs help?



d. Righteousness

Proverbs 11:7

When a wicked man dies, his hope perishes:
all he expected from his power comes to
nothing.

Proverbs 11:19

The truly righteous man attains life,
but he who pursues evil goes to his death.

How does Proverbs help?

e. Fear of God

Proverbs 14:27

The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life,
turning a man from the snares of death.



How does Proverbs help?

f. Avoid gossip

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power of life and death,
and those who love it will eat its fruits.



**In the Beginning was
the Word, and the
Word was God, and
the Word was God.
He was with God in
the beginning.**

John 1:1-2

The Christian Answer



a

Avoid adultery

– He pointed out that just looking at a woman lustfully was adultery

b

Wisdom – He used parables to encourage a wise interpretation of His teaching

c

Discipline – Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. Rev 3:19 .



The Christian Answer



d

Righteousness
– ‘Seek the Kingdom of God and its righteousness’.

e

Fear of God –
And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Matt 10:28

f

Avoid gossip –
What comes out of a man is what makes him unclean.



Jesus Conquered Death



We know where we are going
if we trust in Christ.