

## Making the Most of All of Our Days

Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:8

1. Rejoice in the joy of life especially as you consider the pains that are sure to come. (vv. 7-10)
  - a. Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?
  - b. Numbers 15:38-39 “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘Throughout the generations to come you are to make tassels on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel. 39You will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by chasing after the lusts of your own hearts and eyes.
  - c. Deuteronomy 28:47-48 Because you did not serve the Lord your God joyfully and gladly in the time of prosperity, 48therefore in hunger and thirst, in nakedness and dire poverty, you will serve the enemies the Lord sends against you. He will put an iron yoke on your neck until he has destroyed you.
  - d. 2 Timothy 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
  
2. Remember God now knowing that death is certain. (12:1-8)
  - a. Psalm 24:1 A psalm. The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;
  - b. Psalm 95:6 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker
  - c. 2 Samuel 19:35 I am now eighty years old. Can I tell the difference between what is enjoyable and what is not? Can your servant taste what he eats and drinks? Can I still hear the voices of male and female singers? Why should your servant be an added burden to my lord the king?
  - d. Genesis 3:19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.

## LOOKING AT LIFE BEYOND THE SUN:

- Rejoice in the joys of life and praise God in the pains because we know the joys that are still to come and remain.
  - 1 Corinthians 2:9 However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived” — the things God has prepared for those who love him—
  - 2 Corinthians 5:1 For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.
  - Romans 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.
  
- Make the most of our days from the perspective of eternity.
  - Psalm 58:11 Then people will say, “Surely the righteous still are rewarded; surely there is a God who judges the earth.”
  - Psalm 92:12-15 The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; 13 planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, 15 proclaiming, “The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him.”
  - Psalm 71:17-18 Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. 18 Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.
  - Psalm 90:12 Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
  - Psalm 139:16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.