

# Old Testament Survey

## *Ecclesiastes*

Does anything mean anything?

## Main Point

**Don't forget to remember God, He'll never forget to remember you**





**Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, “I find no pleasure in them” — before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars grow dark, and the clouds return after the rain;**

Ecclesiastes 12: 1-2 NIV



**When the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men stoop, when the grinders cease because they are few, and those looking through the windows grow dim; when the doors to the street are closed and the sound of grinding fades; when people rise up at the sound of birds, but all their songs grow faint;**

Ecclesiastes 12: 3-4 NIV



**When people are afraid of heights and of dangers in the streets; when the almond tree blossoms and the grasshopper drags itself along and desire no longer is stirred. Then people go to their eternal home and mourners go about the streets.**

Ecclesiastes 12: 5 NIV





## Remember God When Young

- ❑ Youth is a mindset
- ❑ Setbacks are just an inconvenience
- ❑ Use your vigor and passion while it's fresh





**COFFEE  
PLEASE**



**Remember him—before the silver cord is severed, and the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, and the wheel broken at the well, and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. “Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the Teacher. “Everything is meaningless!”**

Ecclesiastes 12: 6-8 NIV





## Remember God Before It's Too Late

- ❑ Writer is talking about end of life
- ❑ Don't wait until then to use what God has given you
- ❑ At the end everything is meaningless because we can do nothing with it





# EXPIRATION DATE



## How Do We Forget God?

- ❑ We tend to forget we're meant for more than what is right in front of us
- ❑ Life gets in the way
- ❑ Being busy, pride, and fear





## Being Busy

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:38-42 NIV)



## Being Busy

- ❑ Martha was busy with “stuff”
- ❑ Jesus tells her none of it is needed
- ❑ We get caught up with our own “stuff” that we forget God is right here



## Pride

- ❑ Daniel 5 and King Belshazzar
- ❑ We get caught up with ourselves in the positive and negative
- ❑ We're made for more than ourselves





## Fear

- ❑ Many things can make us fearful
- ❑ Don't let the fear dominate and cause us to forget God



# Pride

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

(Psalm 23:4 NIV)



## How Does God Remember Us?

**“He remembers His covenant forever, the covenant He made for a thousand generations” (Psalm 105:8 NIV)**

- We have the promise God made us in sending Jesus
- He will never leave us and never forget us







You know what  
the happiest  
animal in the  
world is?  
It's a goldfish.  
It's got a 10  
second memory.  
Be a goldfish.

- TED LASSO



**Not only was the Teacher wise, but he also imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs. The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true.**

Ecclesiastes 12: 9-10 NIV



**The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one shepherd. Be warned, my son, of anything in addition to them. Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body.**

Ecclesiastes 12: 11-12 NIV





**Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.**

Ecclesiastes 12: 13-14 NIV



## The Wrap Up

- ❑ Our writer searched everywhere for meaning
- ❑ He found without God everything was meaningless
- ❑ Don't wait to remember God
- ❑ Find God and find the filling of the donut

