SERIES: Ecclesiastes

Advice to the Young

Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:8

Rejoice in Life, but Remember Death (11:7-8)

- Life is a gift from God that is meant to be enjoyed. (7)
- You won't value your life until you see it against the backdrop of your impending **death**. (8)

Rejoice in Your Youth, but Remember Judgment (11:9-10)

- Rejoice <u>responsibly</u>.
 - Enjoy the days of your youth because they are <u>few</u>.
 - Enjoy the days of your youth because they are <u>fleeting</u>.
- Rejoice <u>reverently</u>.
 - Live a life that honors God...
 - Live a life with no <u>regrets</u>.
 - Live a life with no **remorse**.
 - o Because one day you will give an account to God...
 - There will be no **exceptions**.
 - You will have no excuses.
- "True freedom is doing what you want to do and not regretting it in 1,000 years." -- John Piper

Remember Your Creator While You Are Young Because Life is Brief (12:1-8)

- Notice the three realities of life under the sun:
 - The reality of **old** age. (1-2)
 - The reality of the **decline** of our bodies. (3-5)
 - "Keepers of the house"- arms grow weak.
 - "Strong men are bent"- legs grow weary.
 - "Grinders cease"- refers to the <u>teeth</u>.
 - "Those who look through the windows"- eyes grow dim.
 - "Doors on the street are shut" ears grow deaf.
 - "Rises at the sound of a bird" sleep is impaired.
 - "Daughters of song brough low" could refer to the <u>lungs</u>.
 - "Afraid of what is high" fear of falling.
 - "Almond tree blossoms" hair that turns gray.
 - "Grasshopper drags itself" strength is nearly <u>gone</u>.
 - "Desire fails" Physical appetites fade.
 - The reality of **death**. (6-7)
 - Life is suddently **destroyed**.
 - Our bodies return to the dust.
- Notice the glimmer of hope:
 - Death is not our final destination.
 - Our spirit returns to our eternal God.
 - Our soul will arrive at its eternal <u>home</u>.
 - As Christians, our best days are always <u>ahead</u> of us.

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