



#12: The Call to a Joyful and Responsible Life Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:7

- I. Pursue Life: Guided by the reality of death, enjoy the “light” of life – Eccl. 11:7-8.**
 - A. Life, like sunlight, is pleasant and is to be embraced and enjoyed – Eccl. 11:7-8a.
 - B. Death, like darkness, is certain and will usher in a new reality that exposes the insignificance of life’s achievements – Eccl. 11:8b-c.

- II. Pursue Joy: Guided by the reality of accountability, enjoy the opportunities of life – Eccl. 11:9-10.**
 - A. To the young, enjoy all that this life has to offer with the realization that God will hold each one accountable for their choices – Eccl. 11:9.
 - B. To the young, cast off all emotional and physical distresses that can rob life of enjoyment – Eccl. 11:10.

- III. Pursue Today: Guided by the reality of old age, enjoy a full life before the physical limitations of an aging body – Eccl. 12:1-7.**
 - A. Remember: Seize opportunities to embrace the joys of life responsibly before the heartaches of old age come – Eccl. 12:1.
 - B. Failing Physically: Seize opportunities to embrace the joys of life before the limitations of old age – Eccl. 12:2-5.
 - Much like rain clouds block the natural lighting of the sky, old age will increasingly obscure the joys of life (v.2).
 - Growing old is emotionally painful as the body begins to break down and the individual is confronted with diminished strength, rest, senses, security, and desire (v.3-5).
 - C. Reality: Seize opportunities to embrace the joys of life before death comes – Eccl. 12:6-7.
 - As the body breaks down, the “light” of life is fading as death approaches (v.6).
 - As the body breaks down, creation is reversed as the body returns to the ground from which it came (v.7).

Next Lesson
The Focus of a Well-Lived Life - Eccl. 12:8-14