

# Remember Now...

## Introduction

Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1 Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; walk in the ways of your heart, and in the sight of your eyes; but know that for all these God will bring you into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, and put away evil from your flesh, for childhood and youth are vanity. Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, "I have no pleasure in them":

1. **Many times these verses are read to remind our young people to remember God.**
  - A. **As graduation time draws near, many of the teens will be leaving home and going away to college, or getting jobs.**
    - 1) **It is a good time to remember your creator.**

## Solomon's Attitude

1. **As we look at a few scriptures from the book of Ecclesiastes, notice the attitude of Solomon. He maintains a non-pessimistic attitude.**

Ecclesiastes 1:13 And I set my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all that is done under heaven; this burdensome task God has given to the sons of man, by which they may be exercised.

## **Ecclesiastes 2:1-26**

## **That Happiness Is Found in God**

- 1. Some other verses in the book of Ecclesiastes points out that true happiness is found in God.**

Ecclesiastes 2:24 Nothing is better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and that his soul should enjoy good in his labor. This also, I saw, was from the hand of God.

Ecclesiastes 3:12 I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives,

- 2. We should have happiness in all that we do, knowing that we have received all things from God.**

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labor in which he toils under the sun all the days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labor-- this is the gift of God. For he will not dwell unduly on the days of his life, because God keeps him busy with the joy of his heart.

- 3. Life is short. Therefore we should enjoy everyone and all things around us.**

Ecclesiastes 9:9-10 Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.

- 4. The Summary:**

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

## The Inexperience of Youth

- 1. Since the young are inexperienced in many things, they can learn much from their godly parents. Solomon again shows that the young should listen to their parents for proper guidance in life.**

Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother;

Proverbs 4:1-2 Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, and give attention to know understanding; For I give you good doctrine: do not forsake my law.

Proverbs 4:10-13 Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, and the years of your life will be many. I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, and when you run, you will not stumble. Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go; keep her, for she is your life.

Proverbs 5:1-2 My son, pay attention to my wisdom; lend your ear to my understanding, That you may preserve discretion, and your lips may keep knowledge.

Proverbs 13:1 A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

## To Respect Authority

Ecclesiastes 11:9 Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; walk in the ways of your heart, and in the sight of your eyes; but know that for all these God will bring you into judgment.

1. **Enjoy the days of your youth, but be accountable.**
  - A. **A young person will be thought highly of when they respect authority and are subject to those that are over them.**
    - 1) **There are many different relationships where this is brought out.**
      - a) **God/Man**
      - b) **Police/Citizen**
      - c) **Coach/Athlete**
      - d) **Teacher/Student**
      - e) **Employer/Employee**
2. **True freedom is obedience.**

## To Refrain from Evil

1. **Again there are some key verses from Ecclesiastes that we can take note of:**

Ecclesiastes 11:10 Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, and put away evil from your flesh, for childhood and youth are vanity.

Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

1Thessalonians 5:21-23 Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. **Enjoy life - but control your impulses.**
3. **Remove sorrow from your heart (Being sorry for the bad things), Remember God!**

## To Develop Faith in God Early in Life

- 1. Learn to trust in God when you're young, so that when you reach the point of raising your own children, you can remember:**

Proverbs 4:3-5 When I was my father's son, tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, He also taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words; keep my commands, and live. Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ephesians 6:4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

### Conclusion

- 1. Remember Now.....**
  - A. To have the right attitude in learning to do what is right as Solomon did.**
  - B. That happiness is only found in God.**
  - C. The inexperience of Youth and rely on the instruction of your parents and other caring adults.**
  - D. To respect authority. You'll be better thought of when you do.**
  - E. To refrain from evil. There is only trouble for you when you get involved with those things that are not right.**
  - F. To develop faith in God now, and let it carry over to your children.**

