

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8

“Remember Your Creator”

Time such a precious thing but fleeting thing

- We try to get our hands around it but it slips through our fingers
- Nothing confronts our creatureliness more than the watch we wear on our wrist
- “It hangs heavy for the bored, eludes the busy, flies by for the young, and runs out for the aged”
- This is why “hellos” are hard because they open the door to “good bye”
- We are preoccupied with it. “On time” “late” “what time”
- Time was created, it doesn’t exist automatically
- God is from everlasting to everlasting — Eternal
- Think sensibly about time because it’s not promised
- Now is the only thing we can be sure of
 - Why the Bible always speaks of now
 - “Now is the accepted time”
 - Now is the day of salvation”
 - “Now is the time to be reconciled to God”
 - “Now is the time”

1. The Command: “Remember Your Creator” (1a)

- Remember = Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him as Greatest Joy
- Not just think about Him but to commit your life to Him
- Give up self-dependence and “vain” pursuits

2. The Time: “In the Days of Your Youth” (1b)

- While you have the chance or opportunity
- While you still have “time”
- “Many have remembered God too late— but never too soon”
- Time bank:
 - Bank credits your account each morning with \$86,400.
 - It carries over no balance from day to day
 - Every evening it deletes whatever balance you fail to use during the day
 - What would you do?
 - Each of us has such a bank. TIME
 - Every morning it deposits 86,400 seconds.
 - Every night it writes off as lost whatever you failed to invest to good purpose
 - It carries over no balance and allows no overrates
 - Each day it opens a new account for you, each night it burns the remains of the day
 - If you fail to use the day’s deposit, the loss is yours

3. The Warning: “Before the Difficult Days Come” (2-7)

- The 3 Before’s (1a, 2, 6)
- Life is like being at a drug store (different ages/different aisles”
- Beauty and fragility (6)
- Reverse of Genesis 2:7 (7)
- Death hasn’t reached out to us yet so commit to the Lord now, hear it’s chains and stir into action.
- Trust in Jesus now, Obey now, invest now
- Psalm 90— teach us to number our days
- We try to deal with everything else in the world, deal with the puzzle of your life
- If you’re older, be encouraged by the poem this morning
 - God sees you and loves you
 - He has made a promise to remember you, even when you can remember
 - He carries you even when you hands are shaky
 - He sees you even if your sight goes dim
 - He is with you even if you feel shut in and alone
 - He holds you up even when your back is bent
 - He can renew the inside even as the outside is waisting away
 - Psalm 92- the righteous still bear fruit in old age, and ever full of sap and green
- Psalm 22:15
 - Jesus went into the dust and came out so that we can too.
 - John 6:39-40— And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Small Group Discussion

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the Scripture and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?
2. The passage calls us to “remember your Creator” now. Why do you think the Bible so often emphasizes “now” (for example, “now is the day of salvation”)? How does the “86,400 seconds time bank” illustration challenge the way you use your time?
3. What Does It Mean to “Remember Your Creator”? What is the difference between remembering God occasionally and truly ordering your life around Him? What “vain pursuits” or forms of self-dependence most compete for your heart?
4. Verses 2–7 describe aging and death with poetic imagery. How does this sober picture of life’s fragility affect your perspective? How does numbering our days (see Psalm 90) help us live wisely rather than fearfully?
5. Verse 7 speaks of returning to the dust, yet the New Testament offers resurrection hope (see John 6:39–40 and 2 Corinthians 5:1–10). How does the promise that Jesus will “raise it up on the last day” change the way we face aging and death? For those who are older—or walking with someone who is—what encouragement do you find in God’s promise to sustain and remember His people?

