

Remember Now Your Creator



Discovering God's Word
Bible Study Series

Remember Now Your Creator

Learn why it is important to remember your Creator, what is important to remember about your Creator, and why you must choose to remember Him now

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My plea: It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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Remember Now Your Creator

“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’” (Ecclesiastes 12:1). These are the wise words of a man who was searching for the true meaning of life and for true happiness. They stand as a serious reminder about what is truly important in life.

As King Solomon (who identifies himself as “the Preacher”) wrote the book of Ecclesiastes to chronicle his search for happiness, he described how he attempted to find happiness through earthly wealth, through earthly possessions, through earthly pleasures, through earthly wisdom and knowledge, etc. However, he discovered that pursuing earthly things was (ultimately) worthless. In fact, after he introduces himself in the book (1:1), he writes, “‘Vanity of vanities,’ says the Preacher; ‘Vanity of vanities, all is vanity’” (1:2).

Then, take a moment to consider the concluding words of this book in 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.”

As Solomon depicts what is truly important in life in these two verses (fearing God and keeping His commandments), the only way for you to actually live your life in this way is if you will “Remember now your Creator” (12:1). Particularly, Solomon says that you need to be remembering now your Creator “in the days of your youth.” Therefore, those who are young need to pay special attention to Solomon’s message. However, let me also suggest

that everyone needs to remember now their Creator – no matter what ages they are!

In this lesson, we want to investigate the phrase, “Remember now your Creator.” This phrase is full of implications for how you should be living your life on this earth, regardless of your age (though it has even greater application to those who are young). If you want to truly be happy and achieve your true purpose in life, you must remember now your Creator!

Remember: Lest You Forget Your Creator

There are many things you think about during a typical day. But, where is God in your thoughts? Is He the main (central) component of them all? Or, is He an afterthought? Or, perhaps, He is not even in your thoughts at all. If you want to truly be happy and achieve your true purpose in your life, you must remember, lest you forget your Creator.

The instruction to “remember” implies you can forget

You need to “remember” your Creator because it is possible for you to forget God. In fact, there are numerous examples of the Israelites forgetting God in the Old Testament. Now, before we consider some of these examples, understand that these individuals were God’s chosen people. They believed in God. But, they often would not keep Him in the forefront of their thoughts (they would forget Him).

The book of Deuteronomy records Moses’ exhortation to the children of Israel prior to entering the promised land (the land of Canaan). Moses, himself, was not being permitted to enter the land. Therefore, as Moses was preparing to hand over the leadership of the Israelite people to Joshua (who would lead them into the land of Canaan), he wanted the people to understand the dangers of forgetting God. So, he spends time reminding the Israelites about what God had done, commanded, and promised.

One example of Moses encouraging the people not to forget God is found in chapter 4. He said, “But I must die in this land, I must not cross over the Jordan; but you shall cross over and possess that good land. Take heed to yourselves, lest you forget the covenant of the Lord your God which He made with you, and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of anything which the Lord your God has forbidden you. For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God” (verses 22-24).

Later, in chapter 8, Moses encouraged them to keep the commandments of the Lord, walk in all His ways, and fear Him - because God was bringing them into a good land that was full of blessings and prosperity. He told them that whenever they came into the land that they should bless the Lord for the good He had given them in the land (verses 6-10). Then, Moses told them to beware that they “do not forget the Lord...by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes” (verse 11). He warned them of the danger of coming into the land, partaking of all its goodness, becoming satisfied, and then thinking that they had gained all of these things by their own strength (verses 12-17).

He continued to tell them, “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the Lord your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroys before you, so you shall perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the Lord your God” (verses 18-20).

But, these Israelites are not the only ones who are capable of forgetting God. Instead, the New Testament tells us that the examples recorded in the Old Testament have been written for our learning – even the poor decisions that many have made in the past and the consequences they have suffered (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:1-11). Therefore, as you consider that the Israelites were warned about forgetting God, you need to consider the same warning.

You need to be constantly mindful of your Creator because there are many things that are trying to get you to forget Him. Certainly, the devil has no interest in you being mindful of your Creator and His true commandments. John wrote that “all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world” (1 John 2:16). The work of the devil is to lure people away from God by appealing to their earthly desires for such things and convincing them to fulfill those desires in ways that are contrary to God’s commandments.

One example of how you can forget God is found in Jesus’ parable of the soils. In the parable, the hearts of men and women are represented by the different types of soil. The parable focuses on how each type of soil responds whenever the seed (God’s word) is planted in them. Specifically, consider the person who is depicted as the thorny ground. Jesus says, “Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful” (Mark 4:18-19).

So, here are individuals who had initially been mindful of God and were obedient to His word. However, because they put their focus on the physical things of this life, they ultimately forgot about God and did not devote their lives to pleasing Him. No, they likely did not “forget” about there being a God. They probably still claimed to believe in and follow Him. However, their actions demonstrated that they were more mindful of their own physical desires than they were about the desires of God. Therefore, they had effectively forgotten God.

Forgetting God never ends well

Go back to Deuteronomy 8. Notice verse 19 again. “Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the Lord your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish.” Moses frequently warned the people in his “farewell address” to Israel (in the book of Deuteronomy) about the consequences that would result from forgetting God.

When the Israelites were in God's favor and entered the promised land, God caused them to be victorious over the native people of the land and take the land as their own possession (as you can read in the book of Joshua). However, the next book that chronicles the history of the Israelites (the book of Judges) describes Israel's frequent rebellion against God's ways and their subsequent punishments. The book contains many examples of the same basic cycle being played out: The Israelites would forget God, God would deliver them to their enemies for oppression, they would repent and cry out to God, then God would raise up a deliverer (a judge) to lead them out of the oppression.

One such example is found in Judges 3. Consider verse 7. "So the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord. They forgot the Lord their God, and served the Baals and Asherahs." Therefore, verse 8 says that "the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel, and He sold them" into the hands of the king of Mesopotamia to be oppressed.

In Psalm 50, God says, "Now consider this, you who forget God, Lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver: Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; and to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God" (verses 22-23). Therefore, you should take warning from God Himself that forgetting Him never ends well. The salvation of God only comes to those who remember Him and order their conduct in a way that pleases Him.

Certainly, forgetting God never has ended well in the past – and it will not end well for you either. If you forget God and live in sin, you will receive the "wages of sin," which is spiritual death (separation from God, Romans 6:23). 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 says that when the Lord Jesus returns from Heaven with His mighty angels, they will "in flaming fire" take "vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power." Forgetting God never ends well!

How to remember your Creator

Since you need to remember your Creator and since forgetting Him never ends well, you need to consider how you can actually remember Him. Fortunately, God has given you a number of ways for you to remember Him. Let me suggest at least three ways God tries to put you in remembrance of Him.

(1) You need to listen to the declaration of creation. Psalm 19:1 says that the "heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork." God is declaring His existence, His Deity, and His power to you through the things He has created (compare with Romans 1:19-21). Therefore, as you look at all of the wonders of the things God has created, you should be caused to remember God.

(2) You need to listen to the declaration of God's word. As you read the things God has revealed in the pages of the Bible, there are many things that He declares about Himself (some of which we will be considering in this lesson). Therefore, as you read all of the truths contained in the Bible, you should be caused to remember God.

(3) You need to listen to the declaration of God's chastening. The Bible teaches that God chastens (disciplines) you. Hebrews 12:5 says, "...My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him." This discipline occurs, according to verse 11, so that you will live your life for Him. Therefore, just as God disciplined the Israelites through the book of Judges so that they would turn away from their sins and remember Him, God will discipline you at various times in your life when you sin so that you will remember Him.

So, God has made memorials of Him all around you in creation, in His word, and even through His discipline. But, are you listening? God has said, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). This implies that it is possible to become so distracted by the things that are happening in your life that you fail to remember God. Determine that you will observe the memorials God offers you and constantly be put in remembrance of God!

Your Creator: Things You Must Remember About Your Creator

Let's revisit the verse we are examining in this lesson. "Remember now your Creator." We have seen that we must remember God because it is possible to forget God – and forgetting God never ends well. But, you can remember God. So, let's consider some specific things that you must remember about your Creator. Particularly, we will be focused on remembering some things God has told us about Himself in the pages of His word (the Bible).

Remember that you have a Creator

The first thing you must remember about your Creator is that He is God! We have already seen that God provides evidence of Himself to all people through the things He has made. Therefore, the Psalmist said it is the "fool" who "has said in his heart, 'There is no God'" (Psalm 14:1).

Certainly, there are ongoing assaults against the reality of God. So-called "science" is constantly trying to challenge the truth that there is an All-Powerful and eternal God who is responsible for the creation of the universe. Instead, "science" is trying to offer its own explanations about how this world has come into existence. Therefore, as you face this constant bombardment of false ideas about the origin of this world, you must understand that God has made Himself known to you through His creation – if you will simply take the time to meditate on it.

Then, not only must you remember that God has created all things, but you must also remember that God has created *you* in His own image. Contrary to popular beliefs today, you are not the result of millions (if not billions) of years of evolutionary processes and a "survival of the fittest." Instead, your Creator is the one who is responsible for your existence. The Psalmist recognized this and declared, "For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your

works, And that my soul knows very well" (Psalm 139:13-14).

Consider the creation account recorded in Genesis 1:26-27. "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

Not only do you need to remember that you have been created *by* God (i.e. that you are one of the many things God has created); but you must also remember that you were created in the image of this great and awesome God! Of all God's earthly creations (i.e. the plants, animals, etc.), it is only mankind that is declared to be made in God's image. To be made in His image is to possess a spiritual element to your existence (since God is Spirit, John 4:24). Therefore, you are truly special – and are not just like the animals on this earth. When you die, you will *not* be like all the animals ("like Rover who is dead all over"). Instead, you possess a soul that will survive physical death!

Furthermore, notice that God declared for mankind to "have dominion" (rule) over all other earthly creatures. Mankind is the ultimate earthly creation of God and everything else that has been created on this earth is to be used by man to glorify His Creator!

Remember that your Creator cares for you

As you live your life on this earth, it is easy to lose your sense of purpose and forget about the God who truly does care for you. Consider three things you can know about God that should remind you of God's care for you. Ultimately, you should know that everything God does or has done for you is because He cares for you (see 1 Peter 5:7).

First, God cared enough for you to give you physical life and to sustain your physical life. God is the giver and the sustainer of all earthly life. As we have seen, He is the one who created you in His own image. Therefore, He has created you in a way that is greater than all of the rest of His earthly creation.

Also, if you are studying this lesson, God has blessed you in some way physically. Perhaps He has only blessed you with the basic necessities of life (food, drink, and clothing). Or, perhaps He has blessed you with much greater physical blessings than these. Take a moment to consider all the things God has blessed you with – physically. Think about the things that are necessary to sustain your earthly life. Think about your means of employment. Think about your house. Think about your mode(s) of transportation. Think about your family. James 1:17 says, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

Second, God cared enough to send His Son to die for you. John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” God sent Jesus to be born of a virgin, to seek and save those who were lost, to preach about His kingdom (church), to fulfill the Law of Moses (which was contrary to us), to demonstrate that He truly was the Son of God, and to give His life as the ransom sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Romans 5:6-11 identifies that the ultimate demonstration of God’s love and care for you is that Jesus Christ would give Himself to suffer and die for you so that you could not experience the wrath of the Almighty God and be saved eternally in Heaven!

Third, God cares enough to give you His word. If God did not care about you – not only would He *not* have given Jesus Christ to die on the cross to provide you with the opportunity to be saved, but He also would *not* have told you what you must do in order to be forgiven of your sins. He would have left you entirely “in the dark” so that you would be hopelessly lost. However, God *does* care – and He *does* want you to be saved! 1 Timothy 2:4 says (concerning God), “who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” God has told you everything that you need to know (through His word) so that you can live in a way that is pleasing to Him. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may

be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” When you read and study God’s instructions (contained within His written word), you can know what God requires you to do in order to be saved.

Remember that your Creator sees everything

Your life is made up of many decisions and responses to many different situations. Often, it is easy to make decisions thinking that no one will know or care about the decisions that are made. However, you need to remember that your Creator sees and knows everything.

Proverbs 15:3 simply states, “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.” Pay attention to the fact that God does *not* just observe the good things that take place while ignoring the bad. Instead, this passage states that God sees the evil just as much as He sees the good.

This truth can be demonstrated repeatedly in the Scriptures. For instance, “the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually” during the days preceding the flood (Genesis 6:5). God saw that a man named Achan had taken of the forbidden things and had hidden them in his tent (Joshua 6-7). Psalm 139 demonstrates this truth in poetic fashion. The psalmist asks God, “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?” (vs. 7). He demonstrates that there is absolutely no place he could possibly go to escape the presence of God! Furthermore, Jesus’ statements to the seven churches in Asia Minor in Revelation 2-3 all include the declaration of (whether for the good or for the bad), “I know your works.”

The scope of this lesson does not permit me to give additional examples of God’s nature of being All-Knowing and All-Seeing. However, you must recognize that this *is* part of His nature. Therefore, no matter what you are engaged in, you must recognize that God sees everything that is happening in your life (for the good or the bad). He knows your thoughts. He sees where you go. He sees who you keep company with. He hears what you say. He sees what you do in secret. He knows what’s most

important to you. He truly does see and know everything about your life!

Remember that your Creator is holy

Once you remember that God does see everything about your life, you need to remember that your Creator is entirely holy and pure. So, as He looks on your life, you need to understand that He cannot look favorably upon anything that is not in harmony with His holy nature.

1 John 1:5 says that “God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.” Revelation 4:6-8 depicts a scene in which four marvelous spiritual beings were continually proclaiming the holiness of God around the throne of God. God’s holiness simply means that He is separated from everything that is evil. There is no part (not even a small mixture) of error in God’s nature.

Therefore, 1 John 1:6 should help you understand that anytime you violate the will of your holy God, you separate yourself from Him (Isaiah 59:1-2). It is impossible to “walk in darkness” and be in fellowship with the God of light! Habakkuk 1:13 says (concerning God), “You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness.” As we saw previously, the idea of this passage cannot be that God is incapable seeing the evil or wickedness that is accomplished. Instead, the idea conveyed by this passage is one that God cannot look on wickedness or evil with favor (as approving it).

Because of God’s holy nature, God expects you to be holy. 1 Peter 1:15-16 says, “but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, ‘Be holy, for I am holy.’” As God sees everything that you do in your life, you must remember that He wants you to live your life as separate from evil as He is separate from evil! He does not want you to be involved in any amount of evil. Instead, He calls you to live by His standard of holiness!

Remember that your Creator is jealous

When you are making decisions in your life, you need to consider whether or not God even cares what kind of decision you make. As we have already seen, God does care whether or not you will choose

to live in a way that pleases Him. Furthermore, as you strive to remember your Creator, you must remember that your Creator is a jealous God.

This truth was demonstrated early on in the Old Testament and was a foundational truth for God’s people (the Israelites) to understand. After God had delivered the Israelites from Egyptian captivity by the power of His hand and had promised to give them the land of Canaan, God delivered a law to His people. Consider the beginning of the foundational ten commandments God gave for this law in Exodus 20:1-6.

“And God spoke all these words, saying: ‘I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image — any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.’”

God clearly did not want the people He had just delivered to glorify and serve false, man-made gods. Later, in Deuteronomy 4:24 (as considered earlier in this lesson), the Israelites were told not to forget God and warned that God is “consuming fire, a jealous God.” He was a jealous God who demanded the praise and service of those He blessed.

Today, you must remember that God is still a jealous God and a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:29 says, “For our God is a consuming fire.” Furthermore, Matthew 6:24 says that you cannot serve God and serve another master at the same time. Also, in Matthew 12:30, Jesus said that you are either with Him or you are against Him. So, God continues to demand and deserve your allegiance. He expects first place in your life and He will not settle for anything less (Matthew 6:33).

Remember that your Creator has a law

As you remember your Creator, you must also remember that your Creator has revealed a law

and expects you to follow it. As you live your life on this earth (entirely in the view of your holy Creator), how do you know what pleases God or what displeases Him? You could not know except that God has revealed His law in the pages of His written word (the Bible).

This holy God has given you the opportunity to know how He wants you to live your life on this earth. So, as you are faced with every circumstance and decision in your life, you need to remember God and consider the teachings of God's word. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (as quoted earlier in this lesson) demonstrates that God's word will teach you everything you need to believe, tell you everything you need to change, and make you completely equipped to live in the way that God wants you to live.

Since God is holy, it is only reasonable that His law is also holy. James 1:25, for instance, calls the law of God the "perfect law of liberty." First, it is perfect. It will completely lead you into the holy ways of God. It will not lead you into any way that is not 100% pleasing to God. Second, it is the law of liberty. This means that God's law offers freedom. Whenever you obey God, you will gain access into the grace of God.

It is when you act in a way that is contrary to this law of God that you commit sin. 1 John 3:4 identifies that "sin is lawlessness." 1 John 5:17 also says that all "unrighteousness is sin." Therefore, any decision that you make which is not in complete agreement with the perfect law of your holy God is identified as being "sin." Ultimately, God will punish you if you die in your sin. For instance, the passage we previously considered from 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 demonstrates that you will experience the vengeance of the Almighty God and be punished eternally if you do not obey the gospel of Jesus Christ!

As you live every day of your life, then, you must remember that your holy God has revealed His perfect law to you and you are expected to follow after it. Whenever you make decisions about religion, you must remember to follow it. Whenever you make decisions about your family, you must remember to follow it. Whenever you make

decisions about morality, you must remember to follow it. Whenever you make decisions about your job, you must remember to follow it. Whenever you make decisions about your education, you must remember to follow it. Whenever you make decisions about your own personal interests and pleasures, you must remember to follow it. In fact, there is not a single area in which you are exempt from following the law of the Almighty and holy God!

Remember that your Creator will judge you

Why does it matter whether or not you obey the commandments of your holy God? As you make the decision about whether or not you choose to listen to God, you must remember that your Creator will judge you on the Last Day!

The Bible is clear that you will stand before Jesus Christ and be judged according to how you have lived your life. But, how much will your Creator judge you for? He will judge you for everything you have done while you have lived on this earth. 2 Corinthians 5:10 says, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." Ecclesiastes 12:14 says that "God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil." Matthew 12:36 further emphasizes this truth whenever Jesus said that you will even give an account for every idle (useless) word you speak while you live on this earth.

Romans 2:5-11 then makes it abundantly clear what is at stake in this Judgment. In this passage, Paul demonstrates that God is not going to be a partial judge who will reward some people and punish others based on some flawed system. Instead, God is completely fair and He will simply "render to each one according to his deeds" (vs. 6). He will grant "eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness — indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; but glory, honor, and peace to

everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.”

Therefore, you need to remember that your Creator will judge you some day. On that Day, you will certainly recognize that all things have been “naked and open” to the eyes of Him to whom you must give account (Hebrews 4:13). You will not sneak your way into Heaven by finding a “loophole” in God’s judgment. Instead, you will simply be judged by your Creator for everything you have done while you lived on this earth. And, the Bible is clear that the standard for your judgment will be the law of your Creator (see John 12:48; Romans 2:16; Revelation 20:11-15). If you lived your life in obedience to the words of God contained in the Bible, you will be rewarded with everlasting life in Heaven. However, if you did not live your life in obedience to the words of God contained in the Bible, you will be punished with everlasting punishment in Hell (see Matthew 25:31-46).

Now: Why You Need To Remember Your Creator Today

Certainly, you must remember your Creator. There is much that is at stake if you forget Him. But, Ecclesiastes 12:1 does not just tell you to remember your Creator *someday*. Instead, the passage says to “Remember now your Creator.” Specifically, the passage is focused on those who are young remembering their Creator. But, regardless of your age, I want you to consider why you need to remember your Creator “now” (today).

Because everything else is worthless

Let’s look at the verses immediately preceding Ecclesiastes 12:1. Ecclesiastes 11:9-10 says, “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.”

The focus is on the young. Solomon demonstrates there is joy that a person experiences in his youth. However, he says that while the young man is making his decisions, he needs to know that God will judge him even for the things he does in his youth. Therefore, the young man needs to put away every evil thing from his youth because it is all vanity!

Again, the point is made regarding those who are young – and ought to be well noted in this area. However, the truth remains that everything on this earth is vanity (useless). This has been the reoccurring theme throughout the book of Ecclesiastes. Wealth is vanity. Physical property is vanity. Relationships are vanity. Earthly wisdom and knowledge are vanity. Physical pleasures are vanity. Yes, these things may offer some temporary enticements and pleasures. But, when your life ends, none of those things will be of any benefit to you.

That is one reason why (whether you are young or old) you need to remember your Creator *today*! Do not spend another moment of your precious life on things that are worthless. Recognize that nothing and no one is more valuable than your soul! Jesus said as much in Matthew 16:26: “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” The implication is that everything such a one would gain is *worthless*!

Because you need to set the right foundation for your life

Up to this point, we have primarily focused on the first part of Ecclesiastes 12:1. Now, let’s look at the rest of the verse a bit more closely. “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.’” Solomon is clearly indicating that the young man needs to make the decision to remember his Creator during his youth in order to set the right foundation for his life.

So many people have not set the right foundations for their lives. Instead of living every moment of their lives remembering their Creator, they live for themselves, they are chasing the next dollar, they are consumed by worldly activities, they are distracted by life, they are focused on worldly training and education, etc., etc., etc. They are simply seeking whatever pleases or appeals to them at a particular moment.

The older a person gets, the more difficult it can be to re-establish the most important things. Though not impossible, it is much more difficult to restructure your entire life whenever you choose to remember your Creator later in life than it is to build on the right foundation from the time of your youth. In addition, the longer that an individual goes without building on the right foundation, the more the wrong foundation will often *feel* like the right foundation. Satan is certainly working diligently to harden the hearts of people through sin – and it becomes much more difficult to shift your focus once you are well along into your life.

Though it is particularly significant for those who are young, you must remember *now* your Creator so that you can order your life properly – no matter your age is. Whenever you make your decisions, make sure that God gets the first consideration. Make sure you are building on the right foundation of Jesus Christ – in your education, in your work, in your marriage, in your parenting, in your hobbies, and in all of your daily decisions!

Because you will run out of opportunities

In Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, Solomon says that you should remember your Creator “While the sun and the light, The moon and the stars, Are not darkened, And the clouds do not return after the rain; In the day when the keepers of the house tremble, And the strong men bow down; When the grinders cease because they are few, And those that look through the windows grow dim; when the doors are shut in the streets, And the sound of grinding is low; When one rises up at the sound of a bird, And all the daughters of music are brought low...” (Ecclesiastes 12:2-4).

It is my understanding that these verses picture some things that happen as we age. For instance, perhaps the statement about a time when “those that look through the windows grow dim” has reference to diminishing eyesight. Regardless, the point appears to be one of remembering your Creator while you have opportunity to make the most of your years on earth! Rather than wasting your years by pleasing yourself, give your life to God today and allow Him to use you in His service *now*! Determine that you will not waste another moment of your precious life on things that are worthless.

Furthermore, recognize that if you delay to give your life to God, you may wait too long and forever run out of opportunities. The day of your death may come. Jesus Christ may return. Or, you could lose your mental ability to change and remember your Creator (i.e. through a stroke). Therefore, you must determine to embrace today as the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2)!

Conclusion

Are you wasting your life by pursuing worthless things? Or, are you living every day being mindful of your Creator? Whatever your situation is, “Remember now your Creator...”!

Your Creator has told you exactly what He wants you to do in order to please Him. He has told you that you must hear His word (Romans 10:17), believe (John 8:24), repent of your sins (Acts 17:30), confess Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38). Then, after becoming a Christian, you must continue to remember your Creator throughout your life by being obedient to His commandments until your earthly life ends. If you are faithful to God until death, you will be given the crown of life (Revelation 2:10).

Study Questions

Do you need to remember now your Creator?

1. Remember: Lest You Forget Your Creator

Give some examples of warnings about forgetting God. How is it possible for you to forget God?

What results whenever God is forgotten?

How can you remember your Creator?

2. Your Creator: Things You Must Remember About Your Creator

Why do you need to remember that you have a Creator?

Why do you need to remember that your Creator cares for you?

Why do you need to remember that your Creator sees everything?

Why do you need to remember that your Creator is holy?

Why do you need to remember that your Creator is jealous?

Why do you need to remember that your Creator has a law?

Why do you need to remember that your Creator will judge you?

3. Now: Why You Need To Remember Your Creator Today

What does the vanity of all other things have to do with your need to remember your Creator?

What does the right foundation of your life have to do with your need to remember your Creator?

What does your limited opportunity have to do with your need to remember your Creator?