

Remember Now Thy Creator

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Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

- I. There are different stages to life.
 - A. There is infancy, when you are helpless and depend upon others for absolutely everything.
 - B. There is childhood, when you still depend upon others for provision, protection, and guidance.
 - 1. It is a time of life when everything is fun and pleasure and imagination.
 - C. There is youth, which is that part of life that starts when you start out on your own and generally ends about the time when your own children are in the last stages of their childhood.
 - D. There is adulthood, when the children are almost grown until we reach those evil days mentioned here in this Scripture.
 - 1. Adulthood does not start at 18 years old, because that is still a youth.
 - E. Old age is that time of life when everything loses it's appeal and we cease to find pleasure in the things around us that everyone else seems to live for.
- II. While we are living our life in our childhood and youth we are told to remember our Creator.
 - A. That is the time of our life when we are all about pleasure and fun and adventure.
 - B. The world is a wicked place and that is the main fare that it offers – pleasure and adventure.
 - C. Therefore, that will be the main way hearts and lives will be drawn away from God and righteousness and destroyed.
 - D. This Scripture is plainly declaring that our soul is in special danger when we are young.
 - 1. In that part of our life we lack experience.
 - 2. We lack wisdom and understanding because of our lack of experience.
 - 3. Therefore, we are very easily deceived and misled.
 - 4. We are admonished to recognize this fact and remember God and look to Him for guidance and walk in his statutes and commandments.
 - E. Until the evil days come we DO find pleasure in the things of the world around us.
 - 1. This is the fact that makes life so dangerous for us.
- III. The evil days DO come, though, when we will say, “I have no pleasure in them...”
 - A. If we live to old age we will come to a place where the things of this world do not appeal to us any more.
 - B. We will reach a point where nothing brings us pleasure.
 - 1. We just live from one day to the next and we have no desire or ambition to have or to do anything.

- C. We can see this in older people, that you cannot find a way to please them because they have no pleasure in anything anymore.
- D. The one exception that comes to mind is children.
 - 1. They DO take pleasure in children – and this is almost universal with them.
- E. But the things that we desired and sought after in our youth are things that hold no interest any more.
 - 1. Possessions, food, adventures, vacations, romance, etc.
- F. If we have lived through our life and not remembered our Creator these evil days will be most miserable for us.
- G. If we have found the joy and fulfillment of our lives in God and the things of God, these evil days when earthly things lose their appeal will be days of sweetness to our soul because we will still be finding our joy and pleasure in God.
- H. The evil days that come in old age do not take away our appetite for God or the satisfaction that we get from God and his Word, but rather it is increased greatly.
- I. Most people are concerned about laying up in store for their old age, as far as money and provision for earthly cares, but we should be more concerned about laying up for our souls an intimate and loving knowledge of and walk with God.