

Text: Ecclesiastes 11-12:1-7
Topics: Aging, Enjoyment, Fear, Faith, Judgment
Series: Ecclesiastes: Words to the Wise

Monroe Bible Church
August 25, 2019
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Before You Know It

I. Fearful Uncertainties (11:1-6)

Fear of tomorrow's misfortune shouldn't keep you from today's labors.

II. Fleeting Times (7-10)

Enjoy today's joys, but don't forget tomorrow's judgment.

III. Failing Capabilities (12:1-7)

Don't let your faith fail before your capabilities do.

Just do your work, enjoy your life, revere your God, and don't wait!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. Can you think of something that you did when you were younger, that you thought was really fun, and that you wouldn't/couldn't do now? Are you glad you did it?

2. Ecclesiastes 11:6 is an admonition to be diligent in one's labor. What do Ecclesiastes 2:24-25; 3:12-13; 5:18-19; and 9:10 say about our labors?

Is there any uncertainty of the future that's keeping you from expending more effort and finding more joy in your labor? Explain.

3. Ecclesiastes 11:8-9 are exhortations to enjoy life!
What are you enjoying in your life today?

Verse 9 also gives a warning. What is it? Should this dampen your enjoyment? Explain.

Is there any negative mind or body issue (v. 10) weighing you down?
Where are you getting positive input?

Read other exhortations to enjoy life in Ecclesiastes 3:22; 8:15; and 9:7, 9.
How do these verses help you better view enjoying life?

4. Read Ecclesiastes 11:9-10 & 12:1. These verses urge enjoying life in the present because time goes by fast and failing health diminishes the ability to enjoy life. Is there an enjoyment, within God's will, that you've put off for a long time?

Does Ecclesiastes cause you to think differently about enjoyment? Explain.

5. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?