



GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE MIST
ENJOYING A SHORT AND UNCERTAIN LIFE
ECCLESIASTES 9:1-12

Ben Blakey - Compass Bible Church - April 2 & 3, 2022

1. Accept _____ (vv. 1-6)

Ecclesiastes 9:1-12 (ESV)

1 But all this I laid to heart, examining it all, how the righteous and the wise and their deeds are in the hand of God. Whether it is love or hate, man does not know; both are before him.

2 It is the same for all, since the same event happens to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil, to the clean and the unclean, to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As the good one is, so is the sinner, and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath. 3 This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that the same event happens to all.

Also, the hearts of the children of man are full of evil, and madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead. 4 But he who is joined with all the living has hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion. 5 For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. 6 Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished, and forever they have no more share in all that is done under the sun.

7 Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do.

8 Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head.

9 Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. 10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going.

2. Accept _____ (vv. 11-12)

11 Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. 12 For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.

3. Accept _____ (vv. 7-10)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. **Read Psalm 90:12.** The certainty of death has been a steady theme of our study through Ecclesiastes. What are some of the benefits of thinking about this reality? Why is it important to grapple with the evil of death before it hits you or someone close to you?

2. **Read James 4:13-17.** What are some of the ways you have seen the uncertainty of life change plans that you thought were a sure thing? How have these experiences taught you to live with more of a “Lord willing” mindset?

3. What are some of the “simple” things in life that you may take for granted? How can you view these things more as gifts from God? How will that change your own perspective and actions?

4. **Read Ecclesiastes 9:10.** Are you currently doing “whatever your hand finds to do” with all your might? What are some specific areas of your life that you would like to give more effort in order to do it for the glory of God.

5. **Reread Ecclesiastes 9:9.** Husbands, what would greater obedience to this command look like in your life? Wives, what can you do to make this week easier for your husband to enjoy life with you? Singles, what can you do to set a pattern of contentment in your life right now?

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Here are some books which may help you dig deeper into what we studied today. While Pastor Ben cannot endorse everything about each book/author, he does think these books are worth considering and reading.

Rigney, Joe. *The Things of Earth*. Crossway, 2015.

Wiersbe, Warren. *Be Satisfied*. Victor Books, 1990.

Gibson, David. *Living Life Backward*. Crossway, 2017.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that our congregation would show the world what it looks like to enjoy life for the glory of God.

Pray that we would be content with the gifts our Heavenly Father has given us.

Pray that the marriages in our church would reflect joy and love to the world around us.

Continue to pray for people to serve at Easter and Eggstravaganza and for God to use that weekend for His glory.

Pray that God will provide a long-term home for CBCTV through the Taking Ground project.

REVIVAL FROM THE BIBLE READING

Date	Old Testament	New Testament
4/4	Joshua 1-4	Luke 17:11-37
4/5	Joshua 5-7	Luke 18:1-14
4/6	Joshua 8-10	Matthew 19:1-12, Mark 10:1-12
4/7	Joshua 11-13	Matthew 19:13-30, Mark 10:13-31, Luke 18:15-30
4/8	Joshua 14-16	Matthew 20:1-19, Mark 10:32-34, Luke 18:31-34
4/9	Joshua 17-19	Matthew 20:20-34, Mark 10:35-52, Luke 18:35-43