

ENJOY LIFE!
ECCLESIASTES 9:1-10
SEVRIN HAMILTON

Point #1: The Shadow of Providence

The Preacher is preaching to the _____ and the _____.
Is this you?

God's love towards his children does not change.

The _____ of your life don't determine God's favor or disfavor.

Point #2: The Sting of Death

A live _____ is better than a dead _____.

The living know they _____, the dead know _____.

Death comes to us all.

Point #3: The Savor of Life

The Preacher has set the stage: "*Memento Mori*" _____.

Now the Preacher preaches, giving numerous imperatives and commands:

GO

Reject _____!

EAT YOUR BREAD WITH JOY

"Kick death in the teeth, by marinating the rib eyes, lighting up the barbeque, and baking the potatoes." Brian Borgman, *Don't Waste Your Breath*

DRINK YOUR WINE WITH A MERRY HEART

“there has always been within the Christian tradition an ascetic tendency that understands true spirituality as involving the shunning of created things (e.g., food, wine, sex) rather than the enjoyment of these things in thankfulness to God who has blessed us with them.... [The Teacher] helps us see that the latter is the true spirituality.” Iain Provan, *Ecclesiastes*

LET YOUR GARMENTS BE WHITE, POUR ON THE OIL

Radiate _____.

Psalm 45:6-8

ENJOY LIFE WITH THE WIFE WHOM YOU LOVE

Proverbs 5:18-19

The joy and fruit of marriage is part of the _____

WHATEVER YOU DO, DO IT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT

Colossians 3:23

1 Corinthians 10:31

John 9:4

Questions for Discussion:

1. How would you summarize the Preacher's main point of Ecclesiastes?
2. Do you feel like God's love for you vacillates based on life circumstances or that his love for you depends on the fervency of your love for Him?
3. Share a personal example of how death changed the way you live?
4. Do you feel God's pleasure when you enjoy the good gifts He's given you?
5. Prayerfully consider how can you bless and give gifts to others to show them the lavish heart of God. Now Go and Do what you prayerfully considered.
6. Do you honestly believe that God takes pleasure in you His child, when you take pleasure in the good gifts He's generously given to you?
7. Pray for one another to truly enjoy life, knowing we will die, living all of life for the glory of God.