

## Ecclesiastes 9:1-12

### Day 1: Death is unavoidable

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 9:1-10

**Meditation:** Death is a subject no one really wants to think about. Woody Allen once said, "I'm not afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens." While it is never enjoyable to discuss, it's a topic that Solomon tackles in these verses. The one thing we know is that it is a fact of life, and we will be there for it. It doesn't matter your financial status, social status or physical strength, it is an equalizer for all. It is an appointment by God and a destiny that nobody, but God can change. Solomon does remind us that for this reason, we need to enjoy what God has given us in the time that God has given.

**Reflection:** Does the subject of death scare you? If so, does it help knowing that God is even in control of that? Have you enjoyed what God has given you today? Both the big and small?

**Prayer:** Ask God to take away your fears you may have in relation to such unavoidable moments. Then ask God to continue to keep your heart and mind focused on what He has provided you in your life.

### Day 2: Life is unpredictable

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 9:11-12

**Meditation:** We have probably all witnessed moments in our life in which we would have never predicted a certain outcome. Even certain, we may have thought the opposite would have happened. We even have stories of this in the bible. The greatest being the story of David defeating Goliath. We can look at these moments and believe that they may have happened by chance, or it was a coincidence. But the truth of the matter is that it was God's providential hand still guiding the outcome. No matter how unpredictable life seems on the outside, God has ordained and predicted it before the foundations of the earth.

**Reflection:** Do you believe that things happen by chance? Can you see how God's hand was in certain situations of your life that you didn't see in the immediate moment? How grateful are in knowing that nothing is left to chance, but controlled by God?

**Prayer:** Thank God for sustaining you in life. Thank Him for planning your life and allowing you to live it out. Seek forgiveness of the times you didn't trust Him. Ask God to show you areas you need to strengthen in your faith.

### Day 3: How to handle life through the unavoidable and unpredictable

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 15:19, John 3:36

**Meditation:** These two passages out of the New Testament allow us to see that there are two choices for us to ultimately make in life. And while God knows the outcome, He will let us make these choices. Either you believe in Jesus and place your trust in Him, gaining not just hope but eternal life. Or you choose not to believe Him, rejecting His grace to which there is no hope and only the assurance of God's wrath.

**Reflection:** Do you see how hope and eternal life allows us to overcome the unavoidable and unpredictable moments in life?

**Prayer:** Spend time thanking God for the salvation He freely gave to you.