



# “The Preciousness of Time”

Ecclesiastes 11:7 – 12:8

## LISTEN

*Record your insights and observations from this week’s sermon:*

## SHARE

Talk about a movie you’ve seen that depicts aging or dying. What perspective on getting older and dying did the movie present? How does that compare or contrast with your understanding of the Biblical perspective?

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## REFLECT

- a) Review Ecclesiastes 11:7 – 12:8.
- b) According to the Preacher who wrote these words, what are some of the advantages of youth?
- c) Why, after telling young people to enjoy the years of their youth (11:9), does the Preacher say that “youth and vigor are meaningless” (11:10)?

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d) What appears to be the Preacher's thinking on death and dying?

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e) With 12:8 we reach the end of the Preacher's journal. Why are his final words "Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless!"?

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**APPLY**

a) How often do you consider your own mortality? Why is that?

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b) In what ways do you think we minimize or even avoid thinking about death and dying? In your opinion, are Christians better at thinking about those things than non-Christians?

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c) Take a look at your past week. In what areas are you most happy about how you spent your time? In what areas do you think you were wasteful of time?

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d) In 12:1 the Preacher says, "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth." In our study of Ecclesiastes, we have seen that the Preacher does not have a model relationship with God. Nevertheless, he is right in exhorting us to remember God in the moment, rather than living independently of God. If you could adjust one thing about your relationship with God, what would it be? How might others help you toward that goal?

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**PRAY**

a) Pray for the college students at UPC as they resume classes this week.

b) Pray for our young people, that they will remember their Creator in the days of their youth.

c) Pray for Tanya Turner, our Business Manager; for Lindsey Enlow and Kim Brown, our Administrative Assistants; and for Pam Robinson, our Ministry Assistant. Thank God for these women who provide administrative support for our staff and volunteers.