

# ECCLESIASTES

FINDING MEANING IN THIS LIFE

## Message Title: **Before the Curtain Closes**

Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:14 NKJV | Sunday AM, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Pastor Jack Lamb

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment. <sup>10</sup>Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, And put away evil from your flesh, For childhood and youth *are* vanity.

**12** Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, “I have no pleasure in them”: <sup>2</sup>While the sun and the light, The moon and the stars, Are not darkened, And the clouds do not return after the rain; <sup>3</sup>In the day when the keepers of the house tremble, And the strong men bow down; When the grinders cease because they are few, And those that look through the windows grow dim; <sup>4</sup>When the doors are shut in the streets, And the sound of grinding is low; When one rises up at the sound of a bird, And all the daughters of music are brought low. <sup>5</sup>Also they are afraid of height, And of terrors in the way; When the almond tree blossoms, The grasshopper is a burden, And desire fails. For man goes to his eternal home, And the mourners go about the streets. <sup>6</sup>*Remember your Creator* before the silver cord is loosed, Or the golden bowl is broken, Or the pitcher shattered at the fountain, Or the wheel broken at the well. <sup>7</sup>Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it. <sup>8</sup>“Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher, “*All is vanity.*” <sup>9</sup>And moreover, because the





## **Application Questions**

- 1. Reflect on your attitude to old age. How does Ecclesiastes challenge you?*
- 2. Is your future shaping your present? How do you know?*
- 3. Do you find yourself living life looking to some future when you can really be happy? What keeps you from enjoying the present?*
- 4. How can you rejoice in God's gifts and be thankful for gifts past?*
- 5. What difference could it make to your life to realize that every duty you have toward someone else, you have toward God first of all?*
- 6. Are you preparing for judgment? What changes will you make to your life in the light of Ecclesiastes?*

**BE A DOER.** Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to consistently apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil 2:12-13; 1 Tim 4:7-9; James 1:22-27). As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions: (1) How does God want my beliefs/actions to change? (2) How can I accomplish this change? (3) What is the first step toward bringing about this change?