

LIFE IS FLEETING...SO GET TO THE POINT!

Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:14

I. The fleeting nature of life drives us to two questions: What do we **want** and **how bad** do we **want** it? (Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:8)

"Commitment to God without embracing the goodness of life leads to a soulless, fanatical spirituality. Passionate living without the undergirding of a deep commitment to God leads to dissipation and death."¹

II. Our "under the sun" perspective limits our ability to **process death** completely! (Ecclesiastes 12:9-14)

III. The **resurrection of Jesus** completes the message of Ecclesiastes!

Study Questions for September 13

1. Read the following passages: Psalm 1:1-4; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 17:5-8; Matthew 3:10; John 15:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:5-9; Galatians 5:22-23; Colossians 1:3-12; Hebrews 13:15; James 3:17-18. Do you see a common image?
2. Read Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23. At face value, which soil represents the true follower of Jesus? What are the repercussions of this parable for the church?
3. How important does God take our "being fruitful"?
4. As you examine your own life, do you see the "fruit" of a true relationship with God, that is - the good works that accompany true salvation? What are they?

¹Imbach, Jeff, The River Within, pub. by NavPress, 1998, p. 21