

Beyond the Sun Ecclesiastes 11-12

Only God can satisfy our need for lasting significance.

Nothing on earth can satisfy our need for lasting significance.

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Problem: We live in death's shadow.

I said to myself concerning the sons of men, "God has surely tested them in order for them to see that they are but beasts." For the fate of the sons of men and the fate of beasts is the same. As one dies so dies the other; indeed, they all have the same breath and there is no advantage for man over beast, for all is vanity. All go to the same place. All came from the dust and all return to the dust. Who knows that the breath of man ascends upward and the breath of the beast descends downward to the earth?

—Ecclesiastes 3:18-21

It is the same for all. There is one fate for the righteous and for the wicked; for the good, for the clean and for the unclean; for the man who offers a sacrifice and for the one who does not sacrifice. As the good man is, so is the sinner; as the swearer is, so is the one who is afraid to swear.

This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that there is one fate for all men. Furthermore, the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil and insanity is in their hearts throughout their lives. Afterwards they go to the dead. —Ecclesiastes 9:2-3

Solution: Place your hope in God.

- Remember your Creator.
- Remember the end of the story.

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or come to mind...No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days...They will build houses and inhabit them; they will also plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They will not build and another inhabit, they will not plant and another eat, for as the lifetime of a tree, so will be the days of My people...They will not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity...They will do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain." —Isaiah 65

Do you find your life's meaning in God?

Does your life reflect His character and point toward His kingdom?