

Your Best Life Now? (Ecclesiastes 9:1-12)

I. Introduction: A Trek across the Mississippi River on Ice ... Revisited

II. The inevitability of death (9:1-6) and unpredictable nature of life and death (9:11-12)

Context: Qoheleth is giving advice on how to live well **on earth**

Death is **inevitable** (9:1-6)

God establishes the times of life and death according to His sovereign will, and it is wrong to try to figure out His purposes (9:1)

Death is the *great equalizer* – it comes to all the same. (9:2-3, 5-6)

Is death our friend or our enemy? (9:3)

Where there is life, there is hope (9:4)

Life and death are **unpredictable** (9:11-12)

III. Surprise! A command to live your best life now? (9:7-10)

Enjoying His creation was always God's will for mankind

How do people respond to their impending death?

Go! Eat! Drink! Enjoy! Do it! NOW!

Live with the King's joy in His kingdom, NOW!

God is most glorified by a people who enjoy and glorify Him *today*, in the mundane things of life.

IV. Application: How are we to enjoy life?

- Enjoying your God-given gifts in life does not suggest a license to sin
- Cherish what you already have instead of worrying about what might be in the future.
- Trust Christ to get you to your destination
- Do not think about earning what you do not have
- Remember Jesus has prayed; so you WILL make it!
- Your life's journey is sustained by Christ's joy
- When you fail to rejoice, remember Christ rejoiced perfectly!