

“Remember Now Thy Creator”
Ecclesiastes 12:1

Introduction:

1. According To Psalm 139:14:
 - All Of Us Are:
 - “Fearfully And Wonderfully Made!”
 - And That Includes Our Brains!
 - And Our Minds!
 - Did You Know:
 - That In Your Brain:
 - There Are:
 - 86 Billion Neurons!
 - 400 Miles Of Capillaries!
 - 100,000 Thousand Miles Of Axons!
 - Which Is Enough To Circle The Earth 4 Times!
 - And More Than:
 - 10 Trillion Synapses!
 - And Even Though I Don’t Know:
 - What Any Of Those Things Are Or Mean:
 - They Do Demonstrate Just How:
 - Complex & Elaborate & “Wonderful” The Organ Of Your Brain Is!
2. And In Your Brain:
 - Is Stored - Somewhere & Somehow:
 - Your Memories!
 - Memories:
 - Of Yesterday:
 - And Today!
 - Memories:
 - That Are Long Term:
 - And Short Term!
 - Memories:
 - That Are Good:
 - And Bad!
 - Just How Good Is **Your** Memory?
 - Unfortunately, It Is A Pretty Common Thing For Us:
 - To Forget More & More Things:
 - The Older We Get!
 - Even The Things You **Want** To Remember!
 - 3. And That Is Why:
 - It Is Helpful To Be:
 - Reminded About:
 - The Things That Matter Most:
 - In Our Lives!
 - And You May Do This In Any Number Of Ways!
 - You May Make A List:
 - For The Things You Need At The Store:
 - So You Don’t Forget!
 - You May Set An Alarm:
 - For When You Need To Take Your Medicine:
 - So You Don’t Forget!
 - You May Ask Someone To Call You:
 - The Day You Have A Doctor’s Appointment:
 - So You Don’t Forget!
 - 4. What Is True About:
 - The Important Things:
 - In Your Natural Life:
 - Is Also True About:

- The Important Things:
 - In Your Spiritual Life!
- It Is So Easy For Us To Forget:
 - What We Need To Know:
 - And To Believe:
 - And To Do:
 - In Our Walk With God!
- And This Is Why - God Himself:
 - Has Set Out To Remind Us:
 - Of Those Things!
- 5. And So - Through The Month Of December:
 - We Are Going To Have A Series Of Messages:
 - About What God Wants:
 - You To **Remember!**
 - And The Focus Of Our Message:
 - This Morning - Comes From The Old Testament Book:
 - Of Ecclesiastes!
 - So - Please Turn There In Your Bibles With Me - If You Are Not There Already!
 - Ecclesiastes! After Psalms / Proverbs!
 - Where - In 1:1-2 - We Are Introduced:
 - To The Main Teacher & The Main Topic:
 - Of This Book - "The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. / Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity!"
 - The Main Teacher Of This Book:
 - Many Believe To Be:
 - Solomon - The King Of Israel - The Son Of David - Who Was Given Great Wisdom From The Lord!
 - And So - The Wisdom Contained In This Book:
 - Is Worth Learning & Understanding & Applying To Our Own Lives!
 - Especially Since:
 - The Main Topic Of This Book:
 - Is That - A Life Without God:
 - Is Empty & Meaningless!
 - Life Without God:
 - Is Like Chasing The Wind:
 - Or - Trying To Grab Smoke With Your Hands!
 - It Is Something That You Can Never Achieve! And Once You Think You Caught It - It Vanishes As Quickly As It Appeared!
- 6. It Is In The Context Of This Truth:
 - That The Teacher - In The Very Last Chapter:
 - Ecclesiastes 12 - Describes:
 - What You **Should** Pursue After In Your Life:
 - Knowing Just How Empty It Can Be!
 - Toward The End Of This Chapter:
 - The Teacher Makes This Conclusion:
 - In 12:13 - "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man!"
 - And - To Set The Stage For His Conclusion:
 - In 12:1 - We Are Also Given:
 - An Important Reminder:
 - About The Kind Of Life That **Is** Worth Living!
 - 12:1 - "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them!"
- 7. And With This - The Preacher - Under The Inspiration Of God:
 - Is Telling You This Morning To:
 - **"Remember Now Thy Creator!"**
 - And - Perhaps - This Is Just:
 - The Reminder That You & I Need Today:

- In The Hustle & Bustle Of Our Otherwise Empty Lives!

- **“Remember Now Thy Creator!”**

- The First Thing I Want You To See Here - Is Just:

1. Who You Are To Remember!

- Who? According To This Verse?

- “Thy Creator!”

- This Verse Makes An Assumption:

- That - Since There Is:

- A Creation - With All Kinds Of Creatures - Including You & Me:

- There Is A Creator!

- Someone Who Designed And Made Everything Including You!

- Now - Unfortunately:

- This Is A Truth:

- That We Can’t Take For Granted Anymore:

- That Everyone Knows Or Believes!

- Because - The “God Of This World” Has:

- “Blinded The Minds Of Them Which Believe Not!” (2 Corinthians 4:4)

- And - The Godless Culture:

- In Which We Find Ourselves:

- Has Infiltrated & Infected:

- Our Own Minds - To The Extent That We Need To Be Continuously Reminded About:

- The Presence:

- Of The Creator!

- That There Really Is:

- A Creator - A God:

- Who Created All Things, Cares For All Things, And Is In Control Of All Things!

- We Must Never Forget:

- The Profound Truth:

- Of The First And Most Scorned Verse:

- Of The Bible!

- Genesis 1:1 - “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth!”

- I’ve Heard It Said - That The Primary Principles Of The Universe:

- Find Their Beginning In This Verse!

- Time & Space & Matter!

- All Of These - From Our Perspective:

- Seem Infinite & Endless!

- But - They All Had A Beginning:

- And A Creator:

- God!

- “Remember Now Thy Creator!”

-The Preacher Says!

- Because - Before Anything Else Ever Was:

- God Was & Has Always Been!

- Remember The Presence Of The Creator!

- He Exists! He’s Always Existed!

- Also - Remember:

- The Power:

- Of The Creator!

- The All-Mighty Power Of God:

- Is Clearly Displayed Through His Creation!

- Hebrews 11:3 Tells Us That:

- “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear!”

- Everything Was Made:

- From Nothing:

- Through The Voice:

- Of The Omnipotent God!
- Just Go Back To:
 - Genesis 1:3 - When God Created One Of The Most Fundamental Yet Mysterious Elements In This Universe!
 - Light! How Did God Create Light? “And God said, Let there be light: and there was light!”
- Now, That’s Power!
 - When I Speak:
 - Not Even My Dog Listens!
 - But When God Speaks:
 - Things That Don’t Even Exist Yet Listen & Come To Pass!
 - “Remember Now Thy Creator!”
 - The Preacher Says!
 - And You Need To Remember:
 - The Power Of The Creator!
 - That God Was & Is & Ever Will Be:
 - Omnipotent!
 - Also - Remember:
- The Perfections:
 - Of The Creator!
 - In The Psalms - David Spent Much Time:
 - Thinking About & Writing About:
 - God’s Creation - Because:
 - It Brought Him To A Closer Understanding Of God Himself!
 - In Psalm 19:1-3 - David Wrote:
 - “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. / Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. / There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard!”
 - The Glory Of God:
 - Is The Perfect Nature Of God On Display!
 - And David Tells Us That We Can See Some Of God’s Own Nature Reflected In His Creation!
 - And In Romans 1:20 - The Apostle Paul Tells Us Something Similar:
 - “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse!”
 - So - The Creation:
 - Tells Us Something:
 - About The Creator:
 - If We Would Only Look For It & Listen To It!
 - The Creation Tells Us:
 - About A Creator:
 - That Is Great!
 - Truly & Infinitely Great!
 - In Psalm 8:3-4 - King David Also Wrote:
 - “When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; / What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?”
 - The Greatness Of God’s Creation:
 - Filled David With Awe:
 - In The Greatness Of God!
 - The Creation Also Tells Us:
 - About A Creator:
 - That Is Good!
 - Truly & Infinitely Good!
 - In Matthew 5:45 - Jesus Reminds Us That:
 - God - “Maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust!”
 - There Is A General Grace & Goodness:

- In God's Creation:
 - That Flows From God To All People!
- And All Of These Perfections - And More:
 - Reveal To Us The Glory:
 - Of The Creator!
 - He Is Great!
 - He Is Good!
 - He Is Gracious!
- And This Is Why - The Preacher Says:
 - "Remember Now Thy Creator!"
 - Remember:
 - The Perfections Of The Creator!
- And Stand In Awe:
 - Like David Did - Not Just:
 - In The Glory Of The Heavens:
 - But In The Glory Of The Heavenly One!
- And Then - Remember:
 - The Purpose:
 - Of The Creator!
 - That Is - **Why** He Created All Things:
 - Including You - To Begin With!
 - I Think David Wondered About This - When He Asked Back In Psalm 8:4 - "What Is Man, That Thou Art Mindful Of Him?"
 - But - You Don't Have To **Wonder**:
 - About Your Purpose:
 - Because - In Revelation 4:11:
 - We Are Expressly **Told** What the Purpose Of Creation Is!
 - Revelation 4:11 - "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created!"
 - Everything Was Created According To God's Own Will & For God's Own Pleasure!
 - And This Should:
 - Put Your Own Creation:
 - Into It's Proper Perspective!
 - You Were Created:
 - For The Purpose Of:
 - God's Pleasure & God's Glory!
 - Now - This Is A Lot Different:
 - Than The Reason That Is Given By The World:
 - For Life & Existence Today!
 - Because - If You Only Came About By Random Chance And Natural Processes:
 - Then - Any Purpose You Have In Life Will Be Temporary!
 - But - Since You Were:
 - Personally And Particularly:
 - Created By God:
 - Your Purpose Is To Reflect And To Reveal Him!
 - And When You Do This:
 - You Bring Glory & Pleasure:
 - To God!
 - And This Is Why You Need To:
 - "Remember Now Thy Creator!"
 - And - Remember:
 - The Purpose Of The Creator!
 - Because His Purpose Can Be & Ought To Be Your Purpose For Living!
 - But Even More - Remember:
 - The Personality:
 - Of The Creator!

- The Creator Is Not Some Impersonal Being:
 - Who Created Everything & Then Let Everything Go On Without Him!
 - No - God Is A Personal Creator:
 - Who Takes Great Personal Interest In His Creation!
- That Is Why The Bible Was Written & Given To Us!
 - It Reveals Over & Over Again:
 - Times In History When God:
 - Stepped Into His Creation:
 - To Personally Reveal His Will To His People!
 - Bible Study Question:
 - “Where Is God In This?”
- Isn't This How It All Started?
 - In Genesis 3:8 - When Adam & Eve:
 - “Heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day!”
 - In The Garden, God Himself Was There!
- But Even After We Messed Things Up:
 - Because Of Our Sin - God Stepped In:
 - To Reveal Himself & His Plan To Abraham!
 - In Genesis 15:1 - “After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward!”
 - God Was There! Then:
 - God Was There:
 - In Egypt:
 - As His People Were Suffering As Slaves!
 - God Was There:
 - In The Wilderness:
 - As His People Were Making Their Way To The Promised Land!
 - And - God Was There:
 - In The Promised Land:
 - Even When His People Went Through The Vicious Cycle Of Rejecting Him & Then Returning To Him!
- God Was There Through It All!
 - Because He Was & Is A Personal Creator!
 - In Isaiah 43:1 - We Hear These Words - “But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine!”
- But - God Went Another Step Further - Didn't He?
 - God Didn't Just Step Into This World:
 - As Creator - He Even Stepped Into This World:
 - As A Creature - In Order To Redeem His Creation & Make A New Creation!
 - This Is Why John Wrote In His Gospel:
 - John 1:1-4 - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. / The same was in the beginning with God. / All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. / In him was life; and the life was the light of men!”
 - Of Course - These Verses Describe The Second Person Of The Trinity - Jesus - God The Son!
 - It Is Here We Learn That Jesus Is The Word That Spoke All Things Into Existence “In The Beginning!”
 - But - Jesus Is Also - According To John 1:14:
 - “The Word [that] was made flesh, and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth!”
- So - God Stepped Into This World:
 - As A Man - So That As A Perfect Man:
 - He Could “Once Suffer For Your Sins, The Just For The Unjust!”
 - So That - “He Might Bring You To God! Being Put To Death In The Flesh, But [Then] Quickenened & Brought Back To Life By The Spirit!” (1 Peter 3:18)
- God Is A Personal Creator!
 - And He Has Taken Great Interest In His Creation!

- And - Especially - In You!
- And This Is Why The Preacher Urges You To:
 - “Remember Now **Thy** Creator!”
- Job Remembered This:
 - In Job 33:4 - When He Said - “The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life!”
- This Is True Of You As Well!
 - God Personally Created You!
 - Your Body - Just The Way It Is!
 - Your Spirit!
 - And Your Very Soul!
- But It Is Also True:
 - That God Stepped Into His Creation:
 - To Redeem You From Your Sin & To Re-Create You!
- So - To “Remember Thy Creator” Means:
 - To Remember That He Is:
 - A Personal Creator!
 - And He Has Done Everything Necessary So That You Can Have A Relationship With Him!
 - So - Now - All You Must Do Is Turn To & Trust In Jesus - As The Eternal Word Of God - Who Came To Make You Into A “New Creature!”
- This Is **Who** You Need To Remember Today!
 - “Remember Now Thy Creator!”
 - The Preacher Says!
 - Remember:
 - The Presence & The Power & The Perfections & The Purpose & The Personality Of Your Creator:
 - By Turning To & Trusting In Him!
 - But Then - The Preacher Also Tells You:

2. ***When You Are To Remember!***

- When? According To Ecclesiastes 12:1:
 - “Now!” And “In The Days Of Thy Youth!”
 - I Do Think That The Preacher Here:
 - Is Especially Addressing Young People!
 - But - Can’t It Really Apply To Us All?
 - Even Though You May Not Feel Like You Are Still:
 - In “The Days Of Thy Youth” Any More!
 - But - Just When Do Those Days Of Youth End? Bob - “Who’s That Old Guy Looking Back At Me In The Mirror?”
 - What About In Light Of Eternity?
 - I Do Think:
 - There Is A Bit Of A Warning:
 - In These Words As Well!
 - Because - Of What Naturally Happens With Age! So:
 - “Remember **Now** Thy Creator!”
 - Because Of Your Coming:
 - Weakness!
 - It Wasn’t Meant To Be This Way:
 - But - Your Body & Your Mind Is Slowly But Surely Deteriorating!
 - And You Need To “Remember **Now**” Because:
 - Gradually - You Are Losing Things:
 - That At One Time:
 - You Took For Granted!
 - Things Like:
 - Your Hearing!
 - Your Sight!

- Your Taste!
- And Even Your Memory!
- But - The More You Fill Up Your Memory:
 - With Thoughts Of Your Creator - **“Now!”**
 - The More You Can Remember:
 - When The “Days Of Thy Youth” Finally Reach Their End! Whenever That May Be!
- If You Don’t Keep Your Mind:
 - “Stayed” On The Lord Now:
 - As John Gill Once Wrote - You May End Up Having “No Pleasure In Reflecting On A Life Spent In The Ways, Work, And Worship Of God!”
- But - When You **Do**:
 - “Remember” Your Creator **“Now”** – You Will Be Able To “Remember” Him **“Then”** All The More!
 - Because - The More Memories You Have Of The Lord:
 - The More Memories You Can Forget:
 - And Still Have Some To Spare!
- In Fact - One Way To Encourage Older Christians:
 - Is To Asking Them About:
 - Their Memories!
 - Not Just About Their Life, But Of Their Lord! And What They Remember About His Word, His Work & Their Worship! Also:
- “Remember **Now** Thy Creator!”
 - Because Of Your Coming:
 - Worries!
 - Not That You *Should* Worry About Things!
 - After All - Philippians 4:6 - “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God!”
 - That’s What You Are **Supposed** To Do With Your Worries & Anxieties!
 - But - If We Are Honest With Ourselves:
 - We Still Worry - Don’t We?
 - Well - It Is In Those Times As Well, That You Need To:
 - “Remember **Now** Thy Creator!”
 - The More Precious Memories Of Your Creator That You Have Stored Up:
 - The More You Will Be Able To Recall:
 - The Lord’s Mercies & Grace & Promises:
 - To You - To Help You In Your Times Of Need!
 - Even As Jeremiah Did:
 - In Lamentations 3:21-23 - “This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. / It is of the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. / They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness!”

Conclusion:

1. So - “Remember Now Thy Creator!”
 - And When You Remember Him:
 - Respond To Him!
 - When You Remember:
 - The Presence Of Your Creator:
 - Honor Him:
 - As The King And Controller Of All Things, Including You!
 - When You Remember:
 - The Power Of Your Creator:
 - Fear Him - With A Godly Fear:
 - Because The One Who Has The Power To Create Also As The Power To Destroy!
 - When You Remember:
 - The Perfections Of Your Creator:
 - Love Him:

- Because Of His Great Glory, And Because Of His Great Grace!

- When You Remember:

- The Purpose Of Your Creator:

- Submit To Him!

- Let His Purpose Be Your Purpose & His Will Be Your Will:

- Throughout All Of Your Life!

- And - When You Remember:

- The Personality Of Your Creator:

- Believe In Him!

- Because The Word Of God That Created All Things In The Beginning:

- "Became Flesh" - So That He Could Redeem You & Re-Create You As A Child Of God!

2. So - Remember:

- What The Preacher Says To You Today!

- "Remember Now Thy Creator!"

Grace Baptist Church

Stephen Elmer, Pastor

4245 North 200 West

Greenfield, Indiana 46140

317-326-2362

www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace

www.growatgrace.org

pastor-elmer@hotmail.com