

MAN WILL LIVE AGAIN AFTER HIS EARTHLY EXISTENCE

In Ecclesiastes 12:1-7, we have these words recorded:

1. *“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’:* 2. *While the sun and the light, the moon, or the stars, are not darkened, and the clouds do not return after the rain:* 3. *In the days 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;* 4. *When the doors are shut in the streets, and the sound of grinding is low; When one rises up at the sounds of the bird, and all the daughters of music are brought low;* 5. *Also they are afraid of height, and are afraid of terrors in the way; when the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper is a burden and desire fail: for man goes to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets.* 6. *Remember your creator before the silver cord is loosed, or the pitcher shattered at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the well.* 7. *Then the dust will return to the earth as it was and the spirit will return to God who gave it.”*

Here in those verses we have all the essential elements in view: Youth—Old age—Death, and man’s responsibilities to God. But I want you to pay particular attention to what is said in verse 5. In that verse we have these words, *“For man goes to his long home”*. The writer is saying here that man’s course is finished and he is going into eternity. Earthly life as we know it will end and the body of man returns to dust and the spirit returns to the Creator.

In John 14:1-3, Jesus said, *“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”*

These mansions that Jesus speaks of are in the “Father’s house.” This is the heavenly abode from which Christ came and to which he would return, and there He would prepare a home for all who love and serve Him.

Verse 3 has reference to the second coming of Christ. Christ will one day come to take His children home to Heaven. Dear friend our next destination is heavenly, not earthly. In 2 Timothy 4:6-8 the apostle Paul writes: *“For I am now ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that Day, (Now notice), and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.”*

Paul was ready to depart this life and go to be with the Lord. In the Army of the Lord, he had fought battles and won victories for Christ. He had finished his course and above all he had kept the faith. Paul knew that God had a crown of life for him and for all others who loved the appearing of Christ.

Let me ask you a question! “Are you as sure of that crown of life as Paul was?” “Have you fought battles and won victories for Christ?” “Are you keeping the faith?” (If one has confessed Christ, as the Son of God, been baptized for the remission of sins, thus being in Christ, Christ’s Body, and lived a faithful life of service to Him, Christ will take you to the Heavenly Father when He returns again).

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