

“Is There Life Before Death?”

Ecclesiastes 2:12-23

March 11, 2026

- I. Many people look for life before death in _____ and/or _____.

(Ecclesiastes 1:12-18)

- II. Many people look for life before death in _____.

(Ecclesiastes 2:1-11)

- III. Solomon _____ the benefits of knowledge with pleasure.

“Then I turned my thoughts to consider wisdom, and also madness and folly. What more can the king’s successor do than what has already been done?”

Ecclesiastes 2:12 (NIV)

- IV. It is truly wise to _____ from the _____.

“What more can the king’s successor do than what has already been done?”

Ecclesiastes 2:12c (NIV)

“Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.”

1 Corinthians 10:6 (NIV)

- V. When comparing earthly wisdom with folly and pleasure of self-gratification, Solomon found that _____ has the advantage.

“I saw that wisdom is better than folly, just as light is better than darkness”

Ecclesiastes 2:13 (NIV)

- VI. Pursuing pleasure and self-gratification increases _____ in your life.

“The wise have eyes in their heads, while the fool walks in the darkness;”

Ecclesiastes 2:14a (NIV)

- VII. The reality of death cannot be _____.

“but I came to realize that the same fate overtakes them both. Then I said to myself, “The fate of the fool will overtake me also. What then do I gain by being wise?” I said to myself, “This too is meaningless.” For the wise, like the fool, will not be long remembered; the days have already come when both have been forgotten.”

Ecclesiastes 2:14b-16c (NIV)

“Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,”

Hebrews 9:27 (NIV)

VIII. All of our earthly pursuits are _____.
(Psalm 49:12-20)

IX. If you invest in this earth your remembrance will one day come to an _____ but if you invest in eternity your remembrance will _____.

“Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever.

Psalms 112:6 (NIV)

X. Some people look for life before death in _____.

“I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me.”

Ecclesiastes 2:18 (NIV)

XI. Solomon _____ his life of work.

“So, I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.”

Ecclesiastes 2:17 (NIV)

1. The earthly life of work is hard, and it doesn't _____.

“Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.”

John 6:27 (NIV)

“Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.”

Isaiah 55:2 (NIV)

2. The earthly life of work is left to _____.

3. The earthly life of work cannot control what _____ to what you worked for.

“And who knows whether that person will be wise or foolish? Yet they will have control over all the fruit of my toil into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless.”

Ecclesiastes 2:19 (NIV)