

# SERMON OUTLINE Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

Find Joy in Your God-given Lot...and then You Die

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## **UNDER THE SUN INGREDIENTS TO JOY IN LIFE (7-10A)**

*Eat Bread (7a + 2:24; 3:13; 5:18; 8:15)*

*Drink Wine (7b + 2:24; 3:13; 5:18; 8:15)*

*Wear Nice Clothes (8a)*

*Keep Yourself Refreshed (8b)*

*Love and Enjoy Your Spouse (9a)*

*Be OK with How Things Are (9b + 3:14; 5:18; 8:15)*

*Work Hard (10a + 2:24; 3:13; 3:22; 5:18, 19; 8:15)*

*Find God's Approval (7c + 2:24-26; 3:13)*

## **AND THEN YOU DIE (10B)**

# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## MAIN POINT

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The big idea of this sermon is that every aspect of God's creation is meant to give us joy as it points us to God as our greatest treasure. The main takeaway is to joyfully look through the things of earth to the God who gave them.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What are the main ingredients for joy in your life (what they are, not what they should be)?
3. What do you think of the Preacher's list of ingredients? Do any of them seem off to you? What's missing from his list?
4. Do you ever struggle with the idea that the right use of God's physical creation is as honoring to God as your spiritual life?
5. Is it easier for you to enjoy physical things or spiritual things? Why do you think that is?
6. Have you ever been really thankful for having food (just the basic food you need to survive)?
7. How do you tend to celebrate God's blessing? What do you think of wine? Where does your answer primarily come from?
8. Do you have nice clothes that you usually only wear for particularly significant events? How does that enhance your joy?
9. Have you ever truly felt God's pleasure when you take a nap or sit in front of air conditioning on a hot day (oil on your head)?
10. How could you grow in godly enjoyment of your spouse?
11. Would others describe you as characterized by contentment? Why/not?
12. Does hard work usually bring you joy? Why/not? How could you grow in this area of God-given joy?
13. Is your conscience generally well-tuned? Is it usually clean? What is it like to have a clean/unclean conscience for you?
14. What do you think about the fact that you are going to die? Does that affect the way you live at all?
15. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

## AREAS OF APPLICATION

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16. Go on a longer backpacking trip or fast for a weekend in order to grow in your joy in the Lord and the bread He gives.
17. Find a godly way to celebrate God's blessing in your life. Share that celebration with someone else.
18. Take a nap today and ask God to give you joy in His rest through it.
19. Take your spouse on a date, do something fun, and spend some time praying for each other in specific ways.
20. Find one way to work more like God at your current job. Work at sharing the gospel with a non-Christian.
21. Confess your sins and trust in Jesus that you might know the joy of a genuinely clean conscience.
22. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
23. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

## PRAYER POINTS

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24. Adoration. Praise God that He is Creator, King, Righteous, and Judge of all. Praise God that He is a joyful and generous God. Praise God for being merciful and gracious. Praise God that He is patient and kind. Praise God that He is holy and eternal.
25. Confess. Confess any Gnosticism. Confess a lack of gratitude and joy in the Lord. Confess any sins that are staining your conscience—including laziness. Confess any ways you've been mentally, emotionally, or physically unfaithful to your spouse.
26. Thanksgiving. Thank God for His abundant provision in your life. Thank God for your food, your wine, your salvation, your sanctification, your clothing, your refreshment, your spouse, your job, your health, your understanding, and your life.
27. Supplication. Ask God to bring provision through us to those who do not have it. Ask God to help us fight sin together. Ask God to give rest to the weary. Ask God to bring godly spouses to the young people of Grace and to heal the hurting marriages.