



Ecclesiastes Study - Chapter 11:

1. Give away freely – even the food you think you need to hoard. Set it adrift. You'll find it comes back to you right when you need it most.
2. Split it up! Seven ways, even eight. You have no idea what evil might try to steal it tomorrow, anyway.
3. Remember: When the clouds grow heavy you can count on the rain coming. It makes no difference if the storm comes from the north or the south – If the tree is going to fall, it'll fall either way.
4. Worry about the storms of today and you'll never risk planting the crop. Worry about the storm to come and you won't prepare for the harvest.
5. You have no idea which way the wind will shift or why. Neither do you know how you were formed in your mother's womb. Do you think you'll figure out the mind of God who made everything?
6. If it's time to plant, plant! Don't waste a minute! And don't slack before the day is done. You have no idea if the return will be better for your efforts in the morning or the evening. Perhaps both will be tremendous. But you can be certain of what will become of laziness.
7. How sweet is the light that shows us what we need to see. Consider how wonderful it is. Savor the sunshine.
8. If the years be many and life is full of light, rejoice! Remember, there'll be plenty 'days of darkness' after it's all done. It's futile to think of all that won't be done after you're gone.

9. Again, I say it: Rejoice! Young man, enjoy that youth you have. Make the most of it! Give it all you have. Seek. Find. Explore. Discover. Look. See. Learn. Make. If it interests you, go for it. And know that it all eventually leads right back to God, Himself. He will sort it all out and judge what was what.

10. Turn away from anxious thoughts. Let not your heart be troubled. And turn away from the temptation to do evil. Youth is fleeting but the evil sticks with you. Don't waste your youth on it.

Explain the Context

From your own reading provide a short answer to the following:

What is the theme of this chapter?	What is the author communicating?
What did the author miss?	What is God trying to say?

Take a moment to consider these questions:

- 1) In what ways do I “give away generously”? In what ways do I hoard my resources?
- 2) What is worries are keeping me from “planting” or “harvesting”?
- 3) What should I not forget?
- 4) Do I let concerns about what will happen after I’m gone that keep me from being generous now?
- 5) How am I making the most of the time I have?

Apply the Scripture

Write the verse that stood out to you while reading [in this translation or your favorite].

How does this verse challenge you? Does it reveal an attribute of God's character?

For further study:

Consider these scriptures for further study. Add any others you find.

- Philippians 4:4
- Psalms 2;11
- 1 Chronicles 16:10
- Philippians 4:6-7
- 1 Peter 5:7

Lessons the *author* should have learned:

- ~Submit your wisdom to God or you're left with foolishness