



God has decided the best way to reach your full potential in Christ is to face darkness, decline and even death.

Ecclesiastes 12:6-8 (NIV) - Yes, remember your Creator now while you are young, before the silver cord of life snaps and the golden bowl is broken. Don't wait until the water jar is smashed at the spring and the pulley is broken at the well. For then the dust will return to the earth, and the spirit will return to God who gave it. "Everything is meaningless," says the Teacher, "completely meaningless."

DEFEND against mental dullness as the house deteriorates.

Cloudy weather represents an aging mind as thinking declines and memory fades.

PREPARE for physical limitations as your house ages.

keepers of the house – **arms and legs tremble**

***strong men* – body weakens and you walk bent over**

grinders – loss of teeth *windows* – vision deteriorates

doors close – hearing fades *rise up – subtle sounds awaken you*

music – your voice weakens *fear* – heights and falling terrify you

almond tree – hair turns white *dying grasshopper* – walks slowly

appetite – loss of hunger and sexual desire

ACCEPT that your house will be demolished, but one day be rebuilt.

silver cord is broken and golden bowl is crushed – stroke, blood clot

pitcher is shattered and water wheel is broken – heart failure

Ecclesiastes 12:7 (NIV) - For then the dust will return to the earth, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

We can't really learn to live until we are ready to die!

ACCEPT the fact you are aging. BELIEVE there is eternal life beyond the grave. CONFESS your need for Christ to forgive your sins.

NOTES

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