

WHEN THE KEEPERS OF THE HOUSE TREMBLE

*Remember your Creator Before the days of trouble come
when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men stoop*

ECCLESIASTES 12:1-3

"We may ignore, but we can nowhere evade the presence of God. The world is crowded with Him. He walks everywhere incognito. And the incognito is not always hard to penetrate. The real labour is to remember, to attend ... in fact to come awake. Still more, to remain awake."

— C.S. Lewis, Letters to Malcolm: Chiefly on Prayer

"The slide into idolatry starts with a whisper - a belief that the enemy has more power or access to us than Jesus does."

"That only can happen when we forget who we serve, who He's made us to be and the great things He has done for us."

"Forgetfulness is a powerfully threatening foe."

7 The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord; they forgot the Lord their God and served the Baals and the Asherahs.

- Judges 3:7

12 be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. **13** Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. **14** Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; **15** for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land.

- Deuteronomy 6:12-15

Personal signs of forgetfulness

1. **Lack of gratitude**

When I remember I'm embarrassed about how behind I am on gratitude

2. **Sense of God's ambivalence toward me**

When I remember I have a great sense of His favor

3. **Sluggish to believe**

When I remember I lean forwards in expectation and prayer

4. **Slow to encourage others**

When I remember I boast about God and encourage people to ask boldly

THE TERRIBLE FRUIT
OF FORGETFULNESS

13 I will punish her for the days she burned incense to the Baals; she decked herself with rings and jewelry, and went after her lovers, but me she forgot," declares the Lord.

- Hosea 2:13

21 A cry is heard on the barren heights, the weeping and pleading of the people of Israel, because they have perverted their ways and have forgotten the Lord their God.

- Jeremiah 3:21

9 "But they forgot the Lord their God; so he sold them into the hand of Sisera, the commander of the army of Hazor, and into the hands of the Philistines and the king of Moab, who fought against them.

- 1 Samuel 12:9

24 "I will scatter you like chaff driven by the desert wind. 25 This is your lot, the portion I have decreed for you," declares the Lord, because you have forgotten me and trusted in false gods.

- Jeremiah 3:21

REMEMBER

THE GLORY OF GOD

17 But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. **18** They said to you, "In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires." **19** These are the people who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit. **20** But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

- Jude 1:17-25

21 keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. **24** To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— **25** to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

- Jude 1:17-25

⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be **holy and blameless in his sight**. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—

- **Ephesians 1:4-5**

22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death **to present you holy in his sight**, without blemish and free from accusation—

- Colossians 1:22

REMEMBER

THE POWER OF THE CROSS

¹ You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.

- Galatians 3:1

13 Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. **14** May I never **boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ**, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. **15** Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation.

- Galatians 6:13-15

¹ The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming— not the realities themselves. For this reason **it can never**, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, **make perfect** those who draw near to worship. 14 For **by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever** those who are being made holy.

- Hebrews 10:1, 14

38 “Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that **through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.** **39** Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses.

- Acts 13:38-39

REMEMBER

THE WONDERS OF HIS LOVE

⁷ Show me **the wonders of your great love**, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes.

- **Psalm 17:7**

²¹ Praise be to the Lord, for **he showed me the wonders of his love** when I was in a city under siege.

- **Psalm 31:21**

21 keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. **24** To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— **25** to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

- Jude 1:17-25

The "work" of remembering

1. Meditate

(**love** Ps 48:9, **Person** Ps 77:3, **works** Ps 77:12, **ways** and **rules** Ps 119:15, **promises** Ps 119:148, **creation** Ps 143:5 etc)

2. Praise and worship

Psalm 42:4 These things **I remember** as I pour out my soul

3. Testify

Ps 78:3-7 things we have heard and known, we will tell the next generation, Then they would put their trust in God and **would not forget** his deeds

4. Give thanks

1 Thess 5:18 give thanks in all circumstances; for **this is God's will for you** in Christ Jesus.

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