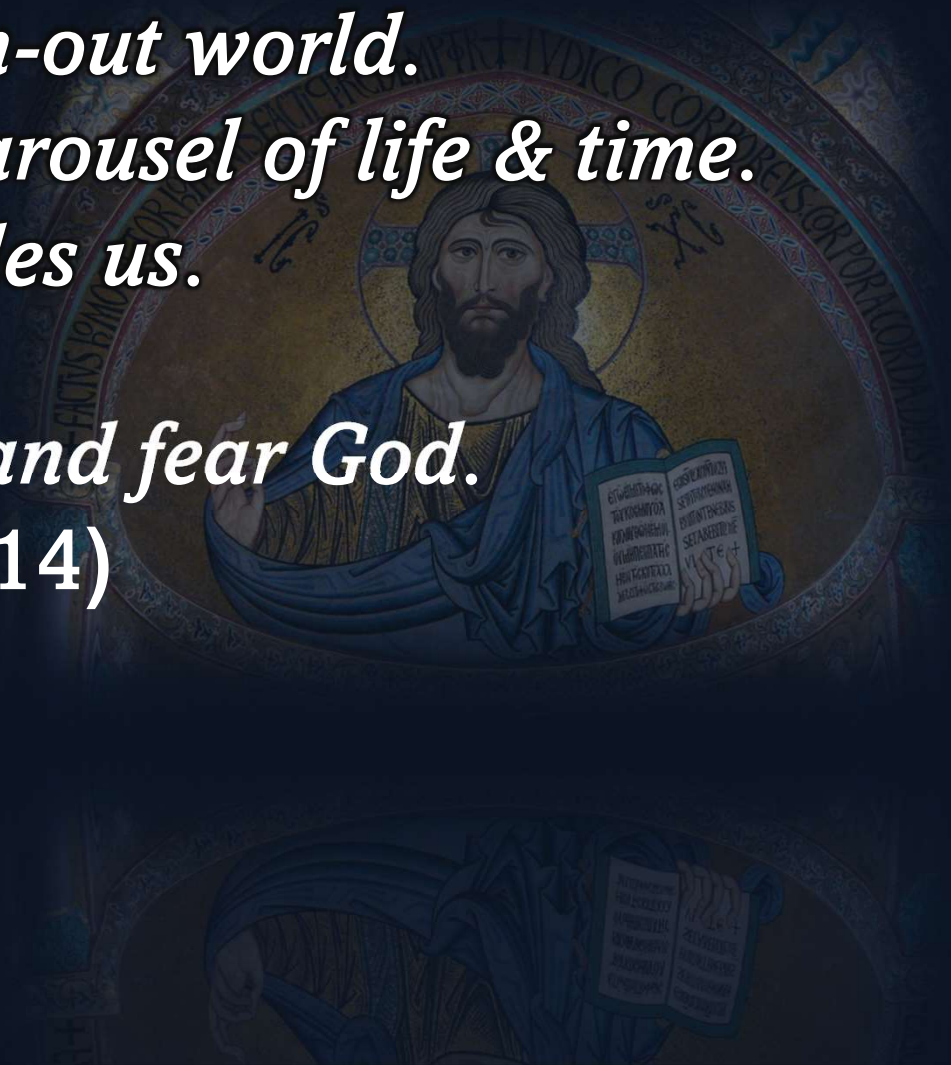


Ecclesiastes

*The World is
Never Enough*

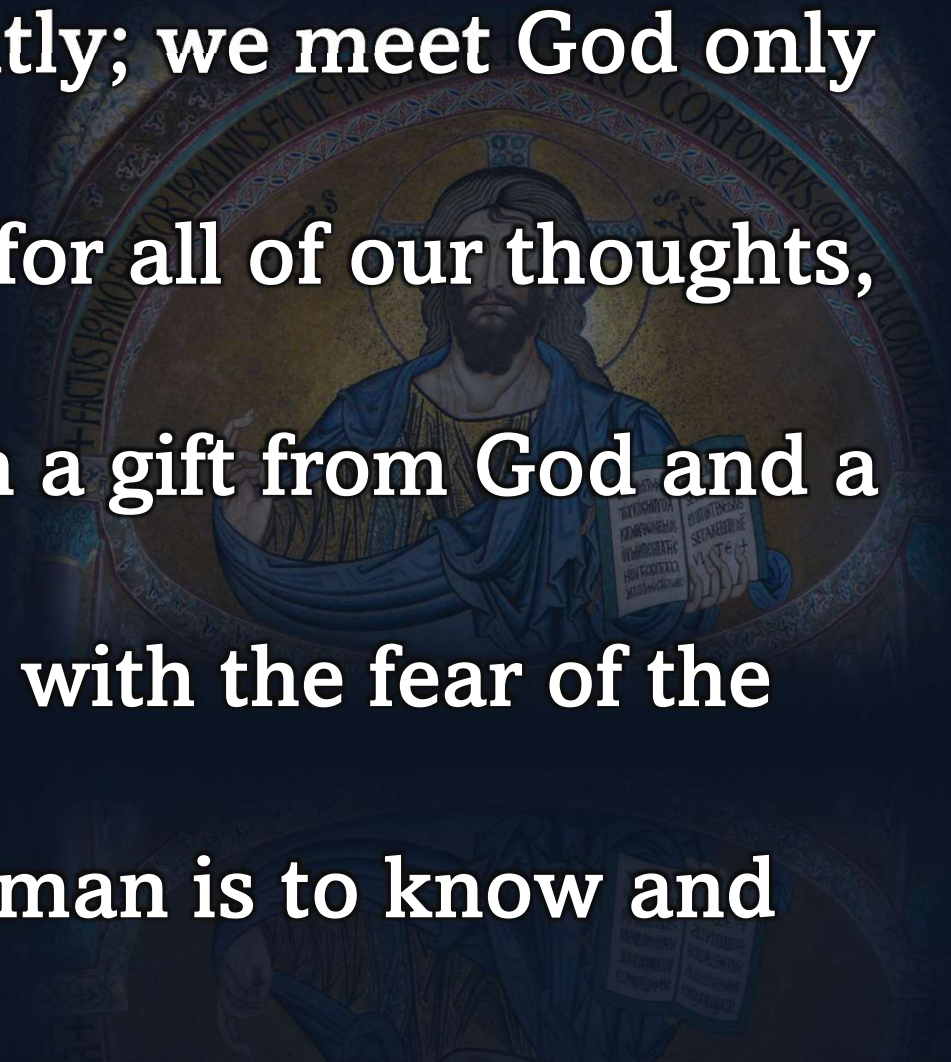
The World is Never Enough

- I. *This is a weary and worn-out world.*
- II. *We are captives on the carousel of life & time.*
- III. *Eternity beckons but eludes us.*
- IV. *Death awaits us all.*
- V. *Remember your Creator and fear God.*
(5:1-7; 11:7-12:7; 12:13-14)



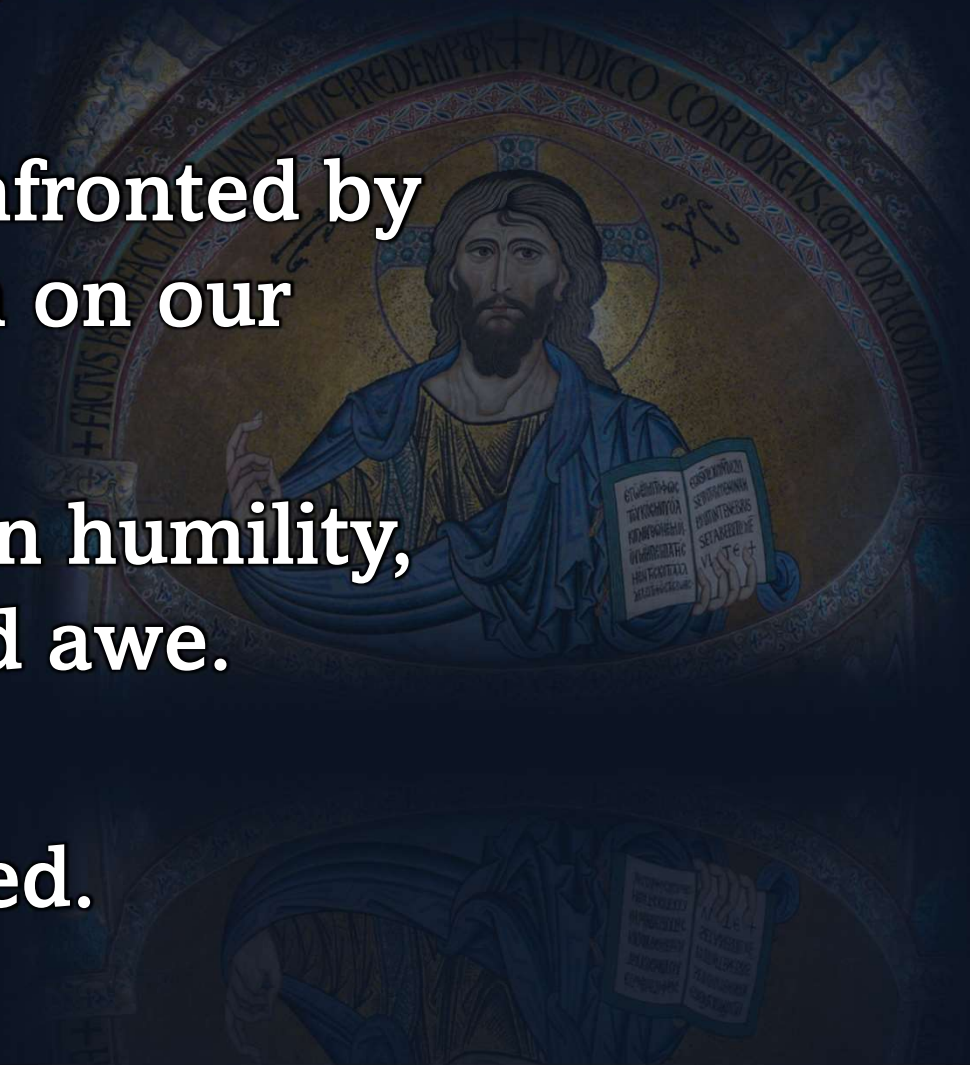
Remember your Creator and fear God.

- God cannot be taken lightly; we meet God only on God's terms.
- God holds us to account for all of our thoughts, word, and deeds.
- Living life joyfully is both a gift from God and a practiced art.
- Wisdom begins and ends with the fear of the Lord.
- The meaning of being human is to know and glorify God.



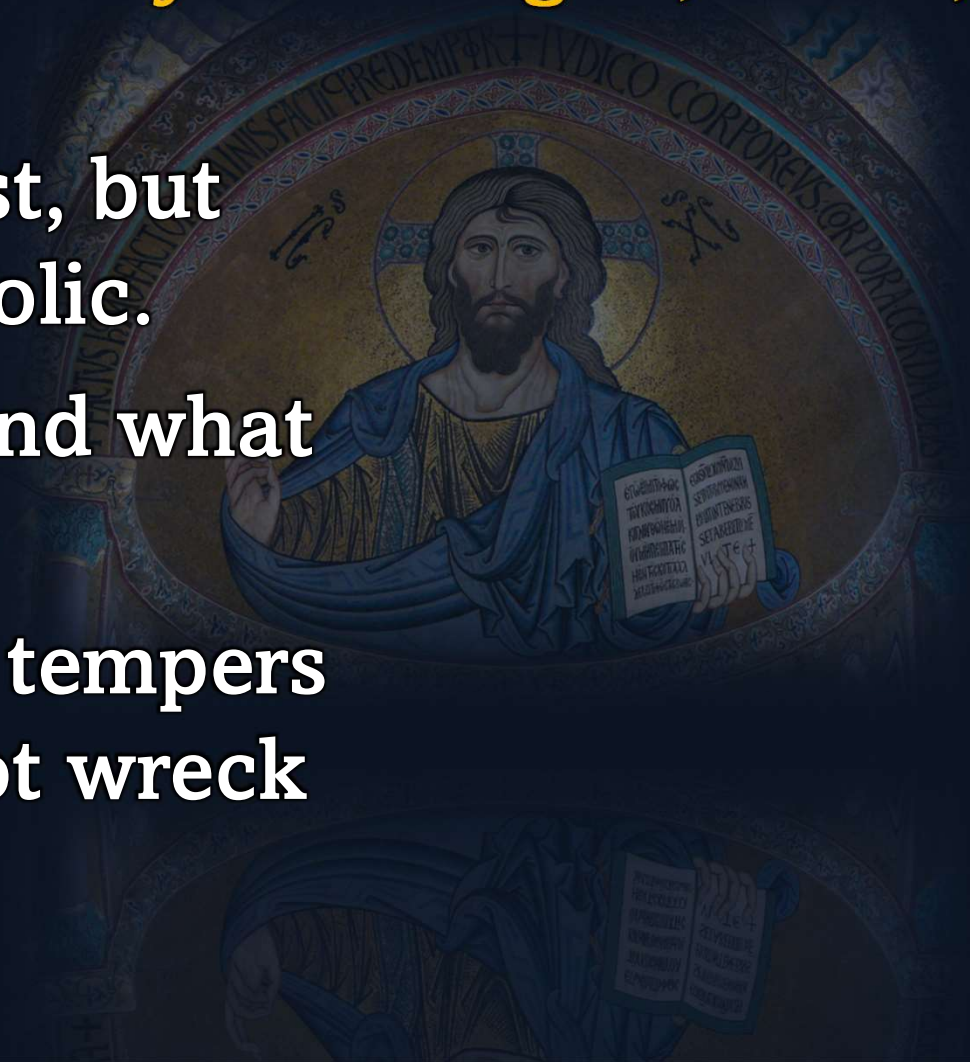
God cannot be taken lightly; we must meet God on God's terms.

- To be human is to be confronted by God's *demand*—his claim on our lives and our worship.
- We must approach God in humility, reverence, openness, and awe.
- God cannot be flattered, manipulated, or controlled.



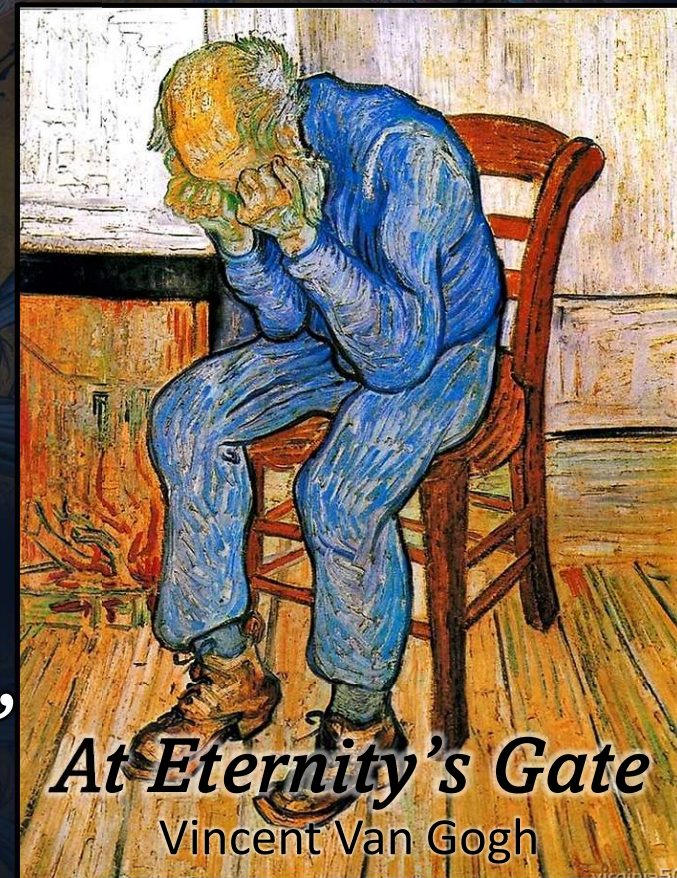
God holds us to account for all of our thoughts, words, and deeds.

- Life is not a continual test, but neither is it an endless frolic.
- Life is serious business and what we do matters to God.
- Awareness of judgement tempers our behavior but need not wreck our happiness.



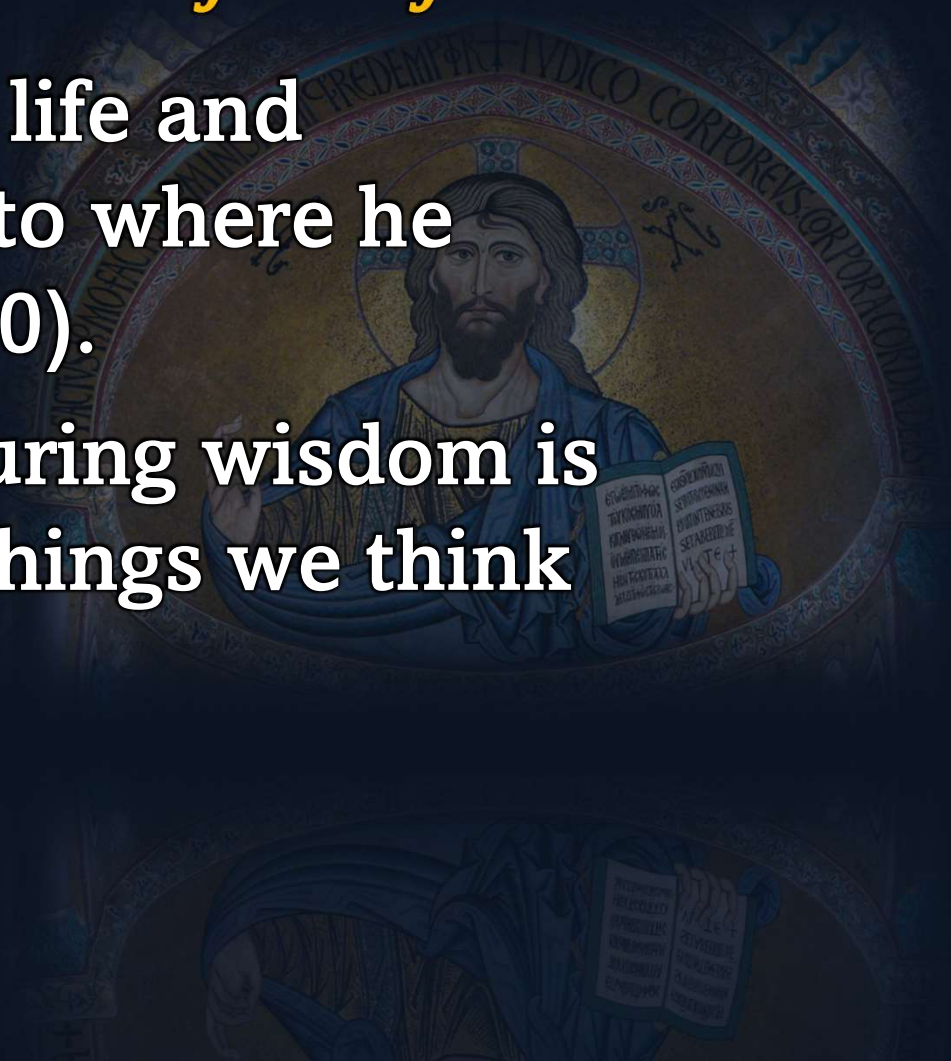
Living life joyfully is both a gift from God and a practiced art.

- We can find joy in life only by faithfulness to the wisdom God has built into his creation.
- Foolish & profligate behavior never ends well.
- To forget God when we are young invites regrets, bitterness, and emptiness when we are old.



Wisdom begins and ends with the fear of the Lord.

- Solomon's exploration of life and wisdom brings him back to where he started (see Prov. 1:7; 9:10).
- Sometimes the most enduring wisdom is the simple yet profound things we think we have outgrown.



The meaning of being human is to know and glorify God.

- Solomon's wrecking ball of meaninglessness has smashed to dust all that we put our vain hopes in; what remains is the truth of our utter dependence on God.
- If we have learned the lesson of Ecclesiastes we have been made ready to receive our true meaning.

