



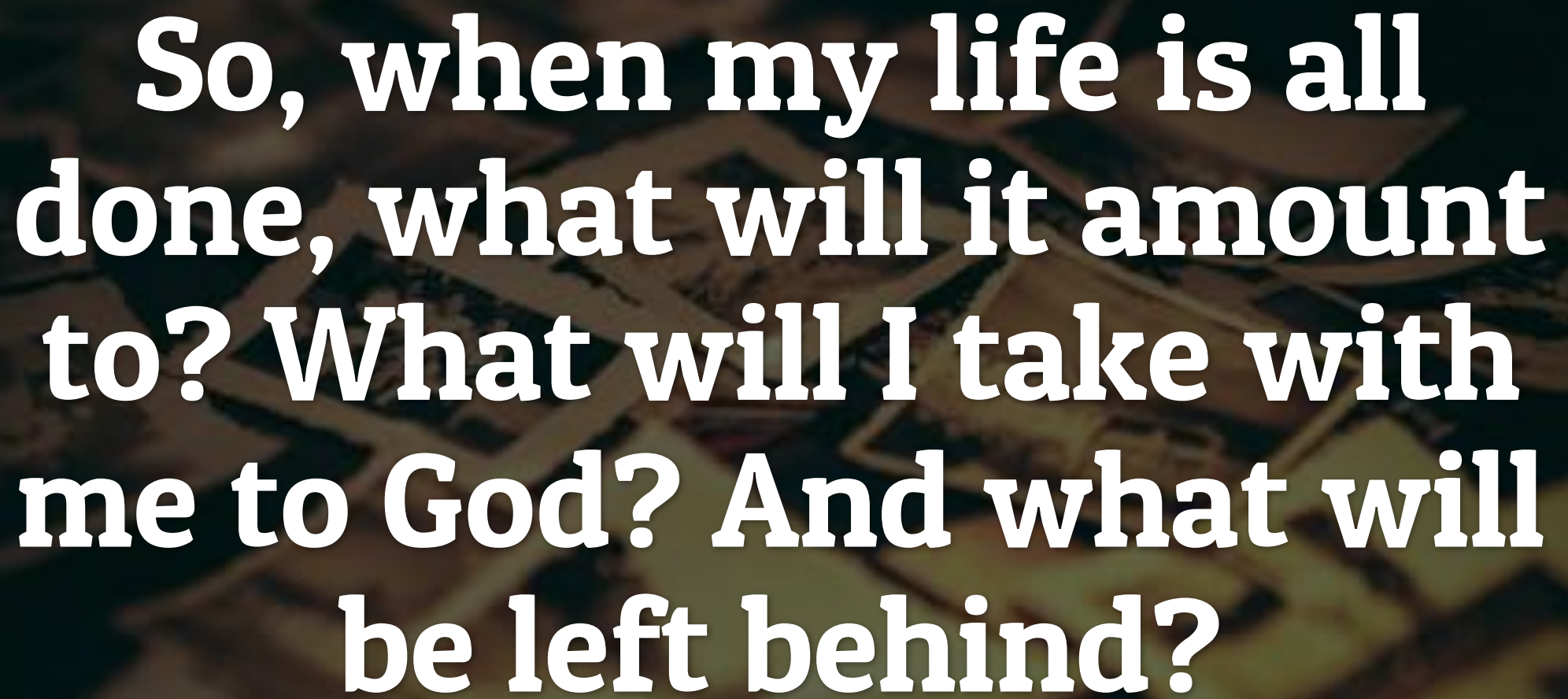


# WHAT WE LEAVE BEHIND

ECCLESIASTES 2:15FF

# TREASURES AND STUFF

- Jesus frequently warned about materialism in His ministry, perhaps most memorably in Matthew 6:19-21.
- Many of His parables and sayings utilize wealth, treasures, or the pursuit of them as their basis:
  - Matthew 13:44-46
  - Luke 12:13-21
  - Luke 12:29-34
  - Luke 16:19ff
  - Luke 21:1-4
- The amazing thing about His teaching is that it left both rich and poor with a lesson!



**So, when my life is all  
done, what will it amount  
to? What will I take with  
me to God? And what will  
be left behind?**

# SOME PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS

- It's been said many times before, but it's worth repeating: death can happen any time, anywhere, to anybody. *As much as it is possible*, make appropriate preparations for your passing.
- Discuss with your loved ones how you want your body dealt with. While the decision is ultimately out of your control, it helps to clarify your wishes so that there is no hand-wringing or guilt (Genesis 49:28-33, 50:22-26).
- Inheritance (Proverbs 13:22) & life insurance.
- Keepsakes can be a powerful way to remind your family of the values by which you lived (a Bible with handwritten notes, mementos from military service, photographs).



# UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

JEHOSHAPHAT, JOSIAH, SAMSON

# QUESTIONS, DOUBTS

- The worst inheritance you can leave behind is uncertainty. Never leave people wondering where they stood with you, or what you were really all about spiritually.
- “Husbands, love your wives” (Ephesians 5:25) and “wives, respect your husbands” (5:33).
- “Honor your father and mother” (Ephesians 6:1-3) and do not “exasperate” your own children (6:4, Colossians 3:21).
- “Be subject to your elders” (1 Peter 5:5) as they “rule well” (1 Timothy 5:17) and “shepherd the flock” (Acts 20:28).
- “Appreciate” hard workers in the church (1 Thess. 5:12-13).
- “Love your enemies” (Matthew 5:44).
- Never leave any doubt about these things!



**Learn to leave some  
things behind right now!**

Matthew 19:21-29, Philippians 3:7-14