

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotional for 21 Day Fast

DAY 12: THURSDAY, January 23rd— Ecclesiastes 8:14...

"14 ... the righteous who get what the wicked deserve, and the wicked who get what the righteous deserve"

*Nothing attracts the favor of God like the unfairness of man
--Toni Magby.*

LIFE IS NOT FAIR

The world is full of crimes that never get solved and corrupt politicians and businessmen who have climbed to power. Christian persecution is rising, and godly men and women often go unnoticed. The unrighteous appear to prosper, while people who follow God are persecuted.

Solomon also saw this happen during his lifetime. When we see the "wicked" succeed, it can be tempting to believe that life would be better apart from God. This is a lie. In [Ecclesiastes 8:12](#), Solomon warns us saying, "Although a wicked person who commits a hundred crimes may live a long time, I know that it will go better with those who fear God, who are reverent before him."

As Christians, we know we have so much more to live for than the here and now. Our lives on Earth are a blip on the timeline of eternity. When we look at our lives through that long-term perspective, we realize that doing whatever it takes to get ahead in this life is just as Solomon described—meaningless.

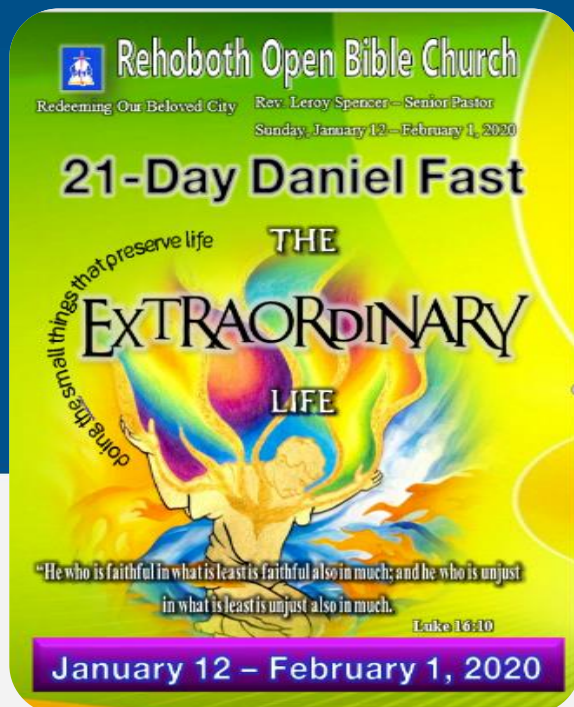
Frustration is a good indication of misplaced motivation

Fulfillment and peace come from aligning our efforts with God's plan and purposes. We have the most fun and feel the most purposeful when we listen to Jesus and do what He says. As Solomon goes on to write, "To the person who pleases Him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness..." ([Ecclesiastes 2:26](#))

The way to build a legacy that lasts is to build it around Jesus. God transforms frustration into fulfillment when our legacy is focused on serving Him. God has uniquely gifted each of us, and everything we do for Him will have eternal significance.

A relationship with Jesus is worth far more than any temporary prosperity

Christians will not always have immediate reward for following Jesus, nor will people receive immediate judgment for walking away from Him. But despite what hardship we may endure, a relationship with Jesus is worth far more than any temporary prosperity.



LIFE APPLICATION

**It's better to have
God **approve**,
than the world
applaud.**

**"LIFE IS UNFAIR.
BUT THAT'S
NO REASON
TO GIVE UP
ON IT"**

Anonymous
13 Oct 2013 6:42 am

**But as for you, be strong and do not give
up, for your work will be rewarded.**

2 Chronicles 15:7

**Devotional Text
Ecclesiastes 8
Ecclesiastes 2:18-26
Luke 12:16-21**