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“**DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER**”

**Ps 103:1-2**

When you travel on a 1200 mile trip—480 miles one way—with 5 children....you have to go through checklists!

“*Don't forget to remember...toothbrushes...extra socks.....etc.*”

We work hard to **remember** and **remind** ourselves **repeatedly**, so as **not** to FORGET to REMEMBER necessities!

I remember once returning from a trip when I FORGOT to REMEMBER.....

Returning from Virginia to Alabama.....we saw something...cat...possum...Sasquatch.... Revved to get up the mountain of a driveway...suddenly I heard a **SMASHING** SOUND....a **SCRAPING** sound and a **SHRIEKING** sound!

..the shrieking sound was my wife! The other tow sounds took a second to discern!

..then I realized I had FORGOT to REMEMBER...the **cargo carrier** that **WAS** attached to the top of our Aerostar!. That we had *borrowed* before we left.....!

I learned a valuable lesson...**DON'T FORGET to REMEMBER!**

When it comes to computers.....*it's all about memory!*

RAM (Random Access Memory) & ROM (Read Only memory) etc. etc.

With amazing accuracy and acceleration microprocessors recall information entered earlier.

When it comes to CHRISTIANITY.....*it's all about memory!*

**2 Peter 3:1** “..(Scripture was written to) *stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:*

**Hebrews 10:32** “*call to remembrance the former days,*”

Memory is what makes the mind work! *We must remember in order to function!*

Memory makes life possible!

\* You may be like the two elderly men that were sitting on a park bench enjoying the sunshine.

They met this way daily for years. One morning, one turned to the other and said, "*I'm embarrassed to tell you that after all these years I can't remember your name. Please, tell me again, what's your name?*" The other man sat there staring with him with a blank look. After a few minutes of silence he finally said, "*How soon do you have to know.*"

We must remember WHO we are! WHERE we live! WHAT we are doing!

\* Man and wife wondering why there was a charge on their MasterCard bill from some 800 number in New Jersey – they called to complain. Person on the phone said the charge was for the Mega Memory tapes they had ordered!

Do you ever **find yourself..... forgetting things?**

➡ Old age is when you **get it all together .....**and **forget where you put it!**

*I can live with my arthritis; my dentures fit me fine;  
I can see through my bi-focals, but I sure do miss my mind!*

\* They say **Ginko Buloba** will improve your Memory so I went and bought some pills— but I keep forgetting to take them or where I put them!

\* My wife has the worst memory though- - she remembers **everything I do and say!!!**

## I. MEMORY IS A **CHARACTERISTIC** OF SOVEREIGNTY

.....**Vs.14**

\* We Are **JUST DUST!**

Some say we came **UP** from monkeys! “*Well what about some people who look like monkeys?*”

“*Some folks look like **WHALES** to but that doesn’t mean we came from minnows!!*”

➔ I’m glad God has a **GOOD** memory!

### A. **DECLARED** IN **SCRIPTURE**

1. Toward **Noah** for **Salvation** **Gen 8:1**
2. **Abraham** to spare His **son** **Gen 19:29**
3. **Hannah** to **send** her answer **1 Sam 1:9**

assures us of His **control** & His **concern** .....**Vs.10-11**

He hasn't forgotten that He forgave you!

\* I have a birth I can't remember/can't forget

\* I was **Evelyn Philips** pastor for 3 years...but I never met her. —she had Alzheimers

..... even if we forget Him, He will never forget us!

He carried a cross **ON** His back **FOR** you.....

B. **DEMONSTRATED** BY HIS **SPECIAL** CARE

I'm glad HE **DOESN'T** remember our SINS!!!!!! .....**Vs.12**

**Heb 8:12** “ *I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.*”

➔ I'm glad God remembers..... to **FORGET!**

God's forgetfulness is not a matter of *inability* but of *infallibility*!

It's not that He **CANNOT**... but that He **DOES** not!

\* East/West Send your **guilt trip**...**on** a trip!!!

Tell it to go find your sin again .....and **it will never come back!**

“**all**” **Vs.3** No matter what sin you have **COMmitted** No sin is **Omitted!**

Whether it's off **SKID ROW** or the **FRONT ROW!**

(**Note:** This word, along with all 5 of the verbs in these 3 verses ends in "**eth**". This signifies "**present tense**". Not only has He cleansed me in the past, He continually cleanses me in the present and He will continue to cleanse me into the future, until the day when my sin nature will forever be left behind and I will stand perfected in His presence !)

\* I'm glad God doesn't look at you and say "***I know what you've done!***"

He looks at us and says "***I know what my Son has done!***"

When the Devil gets in your **FACE** just remind Him of that **PLACE!** —"***Calvary covers it all!!!!!***"

## II. MEMORY IS A **COMFORT** TO THE SAINTS

\* A Wife asked her husband, "***Why do you carry my photo with you?***"  
"***When there is a problem,***" he answered, "***I look at your picture and say to myself, 'What problem can there be greater than this?' .....and I am comforted.***"

However great your problem, the Lord is greater!

**Pr 10:7** *The memory of the just is blessed:*

**Ps 145:7** *They shall abundantly utter the memory of (God's) great goodness,*

**Ps 143:5** *"I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands."*

A. **RELIVE** DAYS GONE BY

Someone has written:

*There was a dachshund once, so long, He hadn't any notion  
How long it took to notify, His tail of his emotion;  
And so it happened, while his eyes, Were filled with woe and sadness,  
His little tail went wagging on, Because of previous gladness!*

> Remembering "the good old days" gives comfort!

B. **RECALL** THOSE GONE ON

\* "In Memory Of"

Certain **SMELLS** –Perfume, aftershave,

Certain **SOUNDS** – Songs of youth, "I'll Fly Away" Mrs. Elsie , "Our song"

Certain **SIGHTS** - Classic cars, TV shows, Christmas may remind you of Grandma

➡ We talked of "Granny" and Jack Maley

C. **RENEW** LOVE BEGUN

\* A Minister said, "Today, church, I am going to say a single word and you help me preach. Whatever single word I say, I want you to sing whatever hymn comes to your

mind."

The pastor shouted out, "**Cross**." Immediately the congregation started singing, "*The Old Rugged Cross*."

The Pastor hollered out, "**Grace**." The congregation began to sing, "*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound*."

The Pastor said, "**Power**." The congregation sang, "*There is Power in the Blood*."

The Pastor said, "**ROMANCE**."

The congregation fell into total silence. Suddenly, from the back of the church, a frail little 87 year-old grandmother stood up and, in a tiny quavering voice, began to sing, "*Precious Memories*."

**Rev 2:4-5** (Ephesus) "... thou hast left thy first love. **Remember** therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else "

### III. MEMORY IS A **CONSTRAINT** TO SERVICE

It is our responsibility to remember

\*Well, to tell the truth, Doc," answered the patient. " *I seem to be getting forgetful. I'm never surer where I put the car, or whether I answered a letter, I really need your help. What can I do?*"

The doctor mused for a moment, then answered in his kindest tone, "*Pay me in advance*."

➔ America has Amnesia in many matters!

**Psalms 9:17** "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that **forget** God."

*You'd better care about health care!!!*

\* **Fess Elisha Parker Jr.** died Thursday. But we knew him as.....

When David Crockett was a member of the U.S. Congress from Tennessee, he was asked to vote to provide a financial benefit to a widow of a distinguished naval officer. It seemed everyone was in favor of the bill; however, Crockett rose to the floor and spoke against the bill! He said, "We must not permit our respect for the dead or our sympathy for a part of the living to lead us into an act of injustice to the balance of the living." He pointed out that every member of the House knew there was no constitutional authority to give public money to private individuals. The bill was defeated.

He ended his speech by saying that he was the poorest man in the House but he would be willing to give a week's salary to the widow and if every member did the same, the amount of money would be more than the bill would have provided. Not one member of the House agreed to give anything to the widow!

-it is easy to give away money that belongs to others!

\* *"A government big enough to give you everything you want, is big enough to take away everything you have" – Thomas Jefferson*

*Obama's health care plan was written by a committee whose head, John Conyers, says he doesn't understand it. It'll be passed by Congress that has not read it, signed by a president who smokes, funded by a Treasury chief who didn't pay his taxes, overseen by a Surgeon General who is obese, and financed by a country that's nearly broke. What could possibly go wrong?*

A. **PROVIDES** A REMINDER OF OUR DEBT

> Memory is mostly **the ART of ATTENTION!**

We need to **exercise** it in order to "**jog**" our memory!

**2 Peter 1:9** - "But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath



forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."

**Deuteronomy 8:11** "Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes":

1. To our Father in heaven
2. To our FaMILY on earth

➔ The older I get..... the **BETTER** I remember !

When I think back to all my parents did for me....now I realize what they sacrificed

And how it really did hurt him more than it hurt me!

3. Those who follow us

Remember...**you never make memories by yourself!**

Aspire to inspire before you expire! 1 Cor 9:24

B. PROTECTS FROM SIN

\* I put a clothespin in a wall socket.... **ONCE**....just once!

**Psalms 25:7** *Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.*

Not just for old folks! .....**Vs.4-5**

**\* Testimony** *"I was hooked on 15 different drugs, I killed somebody with a wet squirrel, I was in jail 15 times, then when I turned 9 yrs old I got saved!"*

Everybody shouts. Then someone stands up *"I got saved when I was 7 at VBS"*

Nobody shouts! That's **BACKWARDS!**

**Ecclesiastes 12:1** *Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh,*

C. **PROVIDES** INCINTIVE .....**\*Vs. 17-18**

When we look **BACK**, it should cause us to **LOOK FORWARD!**

It should inspire **US** to do great things for God!

There's a **RACE** to be **RUN** there are **SOULS** to be **WON!**

Don't **FORGET** to **REMEMBER.....**

The Benefits of His benefits....are **out of this world!**

## Invitation

\* The thief on the cross said "*Remember me*"     **Luke 16** "*Remember thou*"