

## NOT JUST THE OLD FORGET

### Deuteronomy 8:1-18 (v 11 Key)

**Introduction:** Everybody forgets, some quicker than others, but sooner or later things just seem to fade away in the mind and as is said, "become buried." Famous athletes, music styles, teachers, classmates, playmates, names, dates, places, old friends, childhood events, promises and just about any thing ever said or that happened, sooner or later fades away. Sometimes forgetting gets one in trouble with but most of the time nothing really serious.

The things of God are a different matter as forgetting about God can indicate some very serious problems in a person's life. What could possible cause a Christian to forget about God?

### I. WHEN LIFE GETS GOOD, FORGETTING GOD CAN HAPPEN

1. As long as a person thinks about the things of God, God will be remembered.
  - Without realizing it while in the midst of everyday living, one's sense of the presence of God can become dulled and fade away by one simply becoming involved in ordinary matters that need some thought and time.
2. Having all one needs can cause a person to lose thought of God as when there was a need, one would seek out God and ask for help and when that help came, there was no longer the need to go to God.
  - Getting, having, growing, successful, profits, gifts from God can cause one to forget the very One who gave them, God.
  - Count on it! When one has little, barely making a living, one depends on God, and when that person has gotten on top, got some "breathing room," accumulated a little extra, it is easy to forget God. It happens every day!

### II. FORGETTING GOD USUALLY POINTS TO SELF SUFFICIENCY

1. After a while of things going well, an attitude of self sufficiency, "I did it by myself," creeps in and what God has done is replaced with the thought of personal accomplishment.
  - All that God did is forgotten and now it is Me, Myself, and I and when complimented not a word about God is mentioned, just thumbs in lapels, grinning, taking all the credit.
2. Who has not called upon God in the past, asking for His help, pleading for His intercession and assistance and upon receiving it being thankful for His graciousness but as time passed all that God had done gradually faded away, being covered up with things going well and personal accomplishments so that God just wasn't needed anymore right then.

3. Sadly what God did is replaced by "look at what I have done" and the memories of God's grace and provision in that time of need fades away into forgetfulness.

- Sometimes a brief mention of God is made but usually the impression wanted is for others to think that it was "me" all by myself who did what I did.

### **III. ONE MUST WANT TO REMEMBER IN ORDER TO REMEMBER**

1. Getting over spiritual forgetfulness takes a "want to" and effort. Just as getting out a picture album or the old school annual helps bring back faces and memories long forgotten, so will sitting down and beginning to make a list of times and things God stepped in and provided as He saw you through difficult times.

2. Who has ever kept a log or diary of all the wonderful things God has done in one's life?

- Who has ever kept a log or diary of prayers made and God's answers?

3. *"But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God; for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth..." (v18)*

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. It is so easy to forget. One doesn't have to do a thing, it just happens to everyone.

2. To forget the blessings of God can be caused by many things, but almost always the end result is "I don't need God right now."

3. Christian, God has done much you have asked Him for, how much do you remember?

4. Remember that great old hymn, "Count Your Many Blessings...name them one by one..?"

5. To remember what God has done in your life, you have to "remember to remember."