

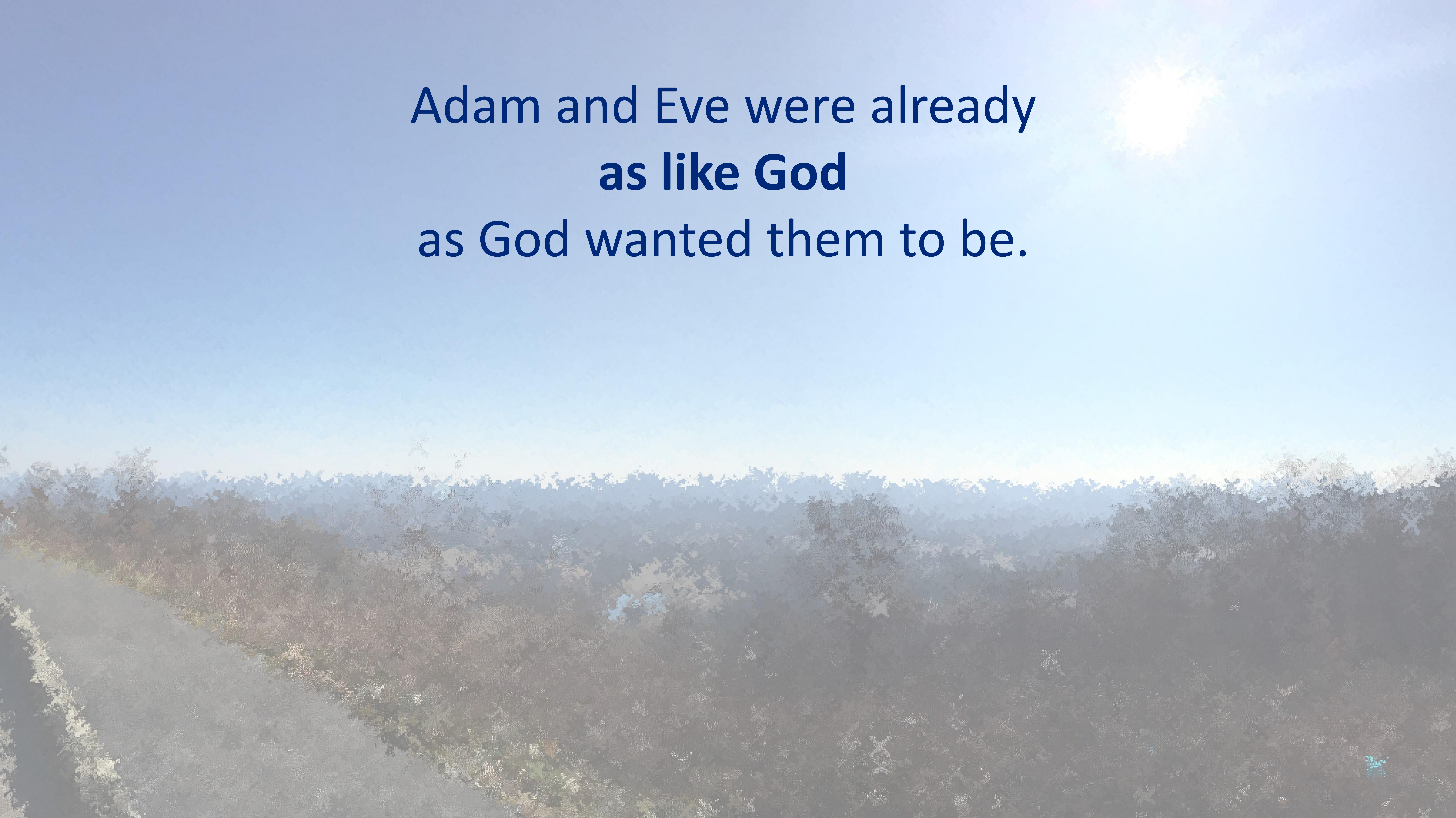
# WHAT IS LIFE ABOUT?

*Part 2*

Ecclesiastes 7:19-29

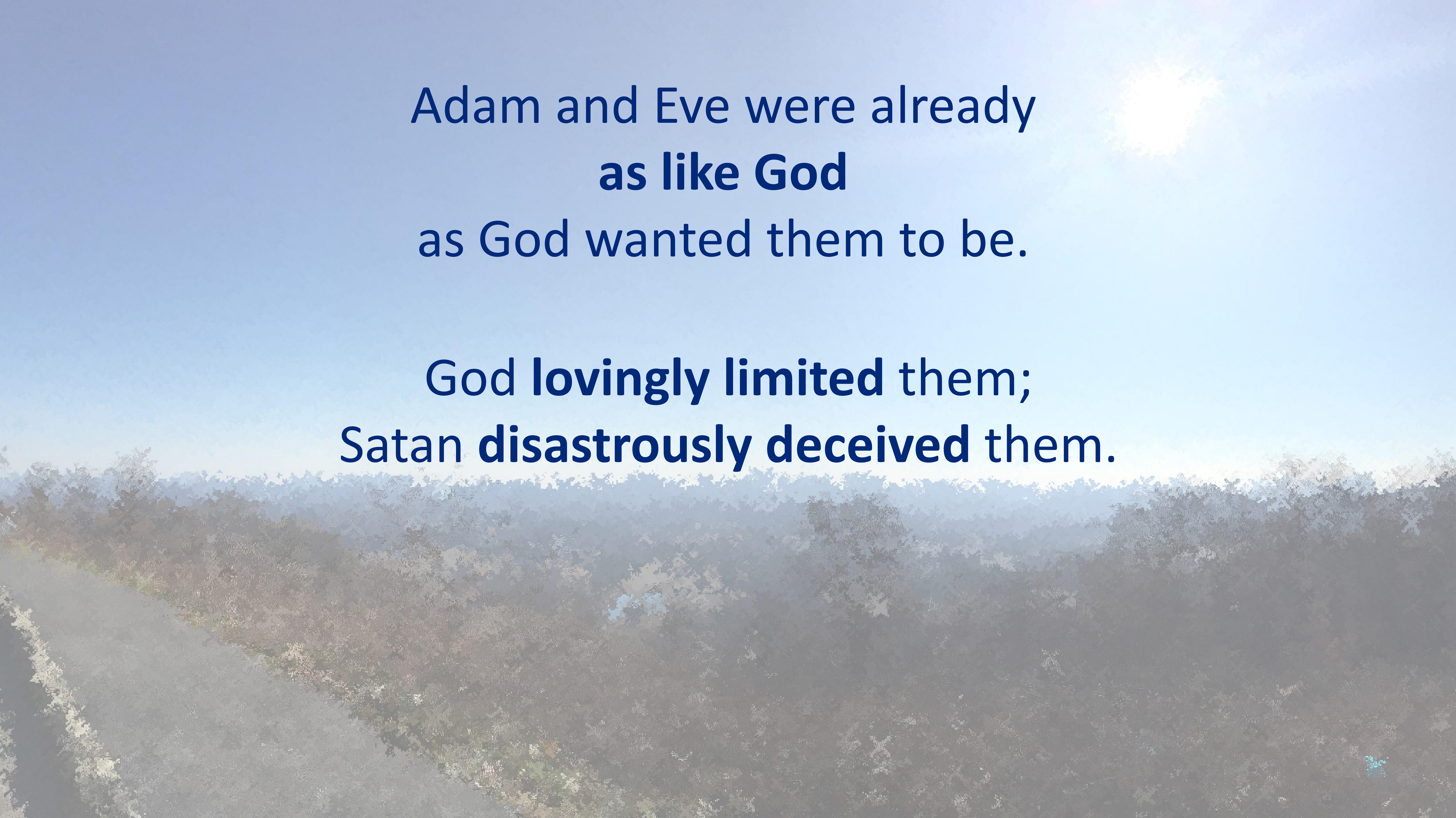
ECCLESIASTES: LIFE UNDER THE SON



A landscape photograph showing a road on the left, a dense line of trees in the middle ground, and a bright sun in the upper right corner of a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the sky portion of the image.

Adam and Eve were already  
**as like God**  
as God wanted them to be.



A scenic landscape with a dirt road winding through a field of tall grass and trees. The sky is bright blue with a large, glowing sun in the upper right corner. The text is overlaid on the sky.

Adam and Eve were already  
**as like God**  
as God wanted them to be.

God **lovingly limited** them;  
Satan **disastrously deceived** them.



The real **catastrophe** here is how our **sin separates us** from our source of life; we all **die physically** and we all **died spiritually**. It was no longer **paradise** for Adam and Eve; they took on a **sin-nature**.

This sin nature has been passed down through Adam and Eve, so that each of us has an **inner, irrepressible desire to go against God** and His limitations and to try to live as our own god.



“the ultimate constituents of the universe”

*John Frame*



“God does make knowledge available to human beings, but to gain knowledge we must begin by listening to Him (Proverbs 1:7). We can come to know the world when our thinking is based on God’s revelation, found in the creation, to be sure, but also in the Bible.

Then we must know our limits.

Our goal must be, not to gain a divine knowledge of reality, but to obtain a human knowledge sufficient to carry out whatever calling God has given each of us.”

*John Frame*



1. God is in careful control of your life.





1. God is in careful control of your life.
2. By His wisdom He brings both prosperity and adversity to your life.





1. God is in careful control of your life.
2. By His wisdom He brings both prosperity and adversity to your life.
3. You can never work out the full measure of God's ways in doing any of this.





I. Life is not about excesses; it's about fearing God.  
(7:15-18)





I. Life is not about excesses; it's about fearing God.  
(7:15-18)

II. Life is not about excuses; it's about faithfulness to God.  
(7:19-22)



“That flaw in the human character prevents anyone from being able to depend on their own wisdom or righteousness to provide them with the enjoyment of God’s good gifts.”

*William Barrick*



I. Life is not about excesses; it's about fearing God.

(7:15-18)

II. Life is not about excuses; it's about faithfulness to God.

(7:19-22)

**III. Life is not about explanations; it's about focusing on God.**

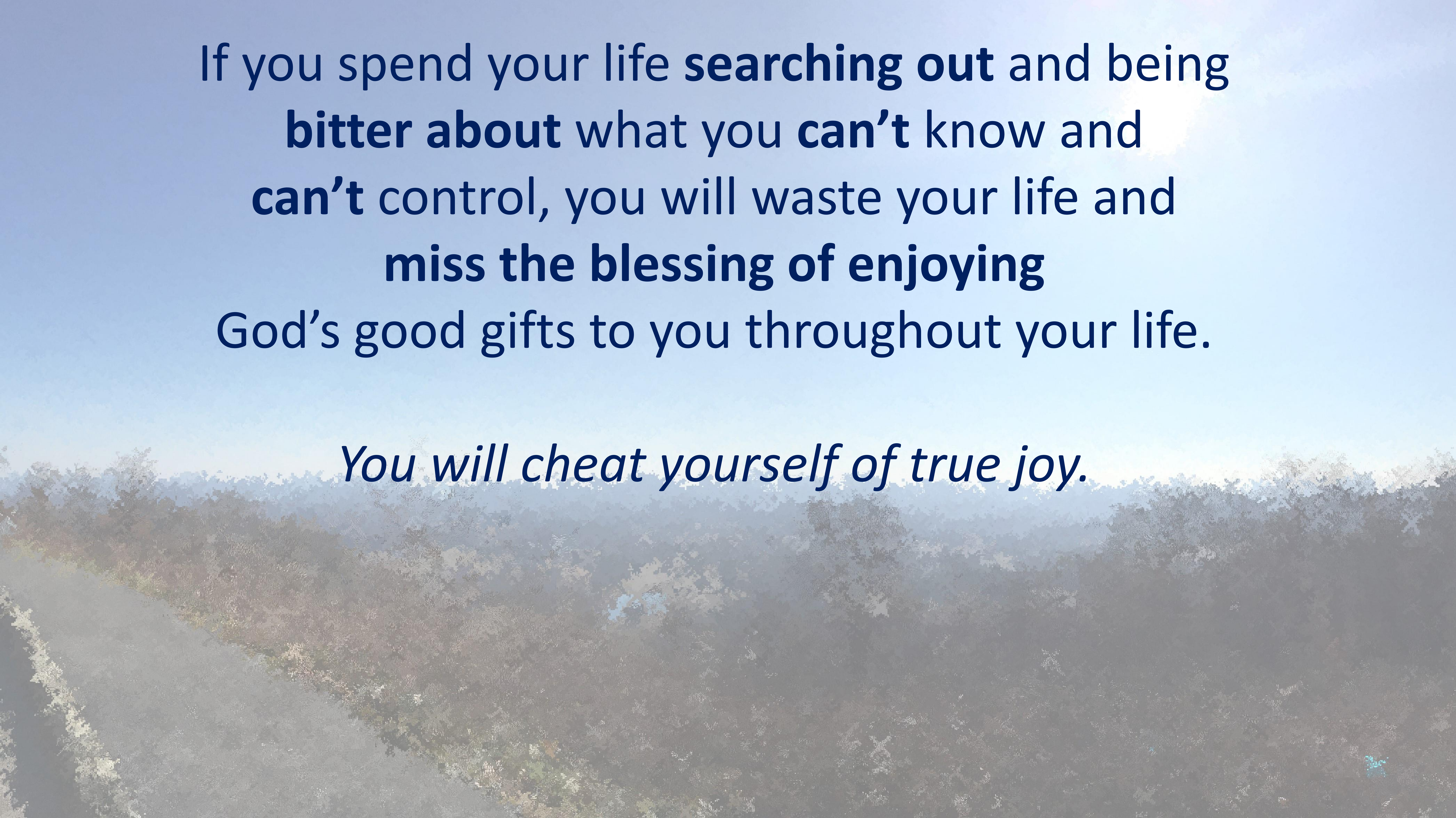
**(7:23-29)**



“It is all that exists as God controls and decrees it  
that is beyond [Solomon’s] comprehension.”

*Michael Eaton*



A scenic view of a forested valley with a winding road, overlaid with text. The background shows a lush green valley with a road curving through it, under a bright sky with a sun flare. The text is centered and reads: 

If you spend your life **searching out** and being **bitter about** what you **can't** know and **can't** control, you will waste your life and **miss the blessing of enjoying** God's good gifts to you throughout your life.

*You will cheat yourself of true joy.*



“God is not to blame for the  
absence of wisdom -- mankind is.

From the Fall to the present, people have turned  
away from God and away from [His] wisdom.

They have all walked the path of folly . . .  
people pervert the right way of God.

*Dr. William Barrick*



*God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...*

Hebrews 1:1-3



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Hebrews 1:1-3

*Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.*

Hebrews 7:25



A landscape photograph showing a dense forest of trees on a hillside. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a prominent sun flare in the upper right corner. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

# ECCLESIASTES: LIFE UNDER THE SON

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