<u>"Selective Memory"</u>

"I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands." (Psalm 143:5)

Slavery & Salvation

<u>Deuteronomy 5:15</u> — "You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm..."

Asaph's Appeal

Psalm 77:5-11 – (5) "I consider the days of old, the years long ago. (6) I said, 'Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart.' Then my spirit made a diligent search: (7) 'Will the Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable? (8) Has his steadfast love forever ceased? Are his promises at an end for all time? (9) Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?' (10) Then I said, 'I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High. (11) I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your wonders of old."

Refreshing Recall

<u>Lamentations 3:19-27</u> – (19) "Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! (20) My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me. (21) <u>But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope</u>: (22) <u>The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;</u> (23) <u>they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness</u>. (24) The LORD is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him. (25) The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. (26) It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. (27) It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth."

Key Point: Let the Lord Permeate Your Memory Banks

Past Principles:

Don't Forget to Forget

"...But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead" (Philippians 3:13)

Focus on the Goodness of God

"For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart." (Ecclesiastes 5:20)

Grieve & Hope

"But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, 'Is the child dead?' They said, 'He is dead'...He said, 'While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, 'Who knows whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.'" (2 Samuel 12:19, 22-23)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message? How much attention do I give to the past? Do I tend to view the past through a self-centered or God-centered lens?