

ECCLESIASTES

Old Testament Survey Series – Study # 27

Introduction

- The narrator is telling the story of his quest to find _____ in life.
- The central idea: The only sure foundation for building one's life is to _____ and _____ God.

Outline of Ecclesiastes

1. Introduction and Theme (1:1-3)
2. First Catalog of "Vanities" (1:4-2:26)
3. Poem: A Time for Everything (3:1-8)
4. Fear God, the Sovereign One (3:9-15)
5. Second Catalog of "Vanities" (3:16-4:16)
6. Fear God, the Holy and Righteous One (5:1-7)
7. Life "Under the Sun" (5:8-7:24)
8. The Heart of the Problem: Sin (7:25-29)
9. More on Life "Under the Sun" (8:1-12:7)
10. Final Conclusion and Epilogue – 12:8-14 – Read

Key Themes of Ecclesiastes

1. We live in a _____ that is often confusing and frustrating. – Romans 8:20, 22
2. Life spent chasing material and temporal things is _____. (1:2; 12:8) – 1 Corinthians 7:31

3. _____ (and _____) can be both satisfying and aggravating.
 - Satisfying: 2:10, 24; 3:22; 5:18-20; 9:9-10
 - Aggravating: 2:18-24; 4:4ff
4. The only sure foundation for building one's life is to _____ and _____ God. (3:14; 5:7; 12:13-14)

Application

1. In light of eternity, we should "_____." (3:14; 5:7; 12:13-14)
 - We cannot find "_____ " in life or experience self-fulfillment in life apart from following God.
 - Don't spend your life caught in the _____ of absurd and empty material and temporal things that have no _____ value.
2. In light of eternity, we should _____ life's _____ things as blessings from God. (2:24-26; 3:12-13, 22; 5:18-20; 7:14; 8:15; 9:7-9)
We should _____ life as God grants it and continue trusting in him who gives _____ to our existence, even in adversity.
1 Corinthians 10:31; 1 Timothy 6:17; Colossians 3:17