

## Ecclesiastes May 7, 2023

### Summary:

King Solomon, being in a position to satisfy his every desire, attempted to do so materially, sensually, emotionally, and intellectually. He soon discovered that life without the fear of God was empty and futile.

The message of this book comes through loud and clear, that the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep His commandments (12:13).

"The Preacher" constructed his sermon very wisely first pointing out the vanity of all things under the sun (in the earthly realm) and showing the folly of human wisdom apart from Divine wisdom. Then he leads us to the conclusion that only God can bring fulfillment and thus our hope and trust must be in Him alone.

### Christ Seen:

The Preacher, [used 7 times; 1:1, 2, 12; 7:27; 12:8, 9, 10]

Jesus is called the teacher often in the Gospels.

Mt 10:24-25 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. 25 "It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher, and the slave like his master."

The Son of David, 1:1

Jesus is also called the son of David many times in the Gospels (M 1:1)

Jn 7:42 "Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?"

The wisdom of God,

1Cor 1:30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, (1Cor 1:23-24).

The King of Jerusalem ((Eccl 1:1)

Prophetic words about Jerusalem:

Ps 87:5 But of Zion it shall be said, "This one and that one were born in her"; And the Most High Himself will establish her. (Ps 87)

Isa 2:3 ... For the law will go forth from Zion And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
(Isa 2:2-3; Mic 4:1-2)

Isa 52:9 ... For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. (Isa 62:1-5)

Jesus is the King of the Jerusalem "from above".

Gal 4:26 But the Jerusalem above is free; she is our mother.

Phil 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior

Heb 12:22-24 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.

Rev 3:12 'He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of

My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name. (Rev 21:2, 10-27)

## Practical Application:

Six times before the conclusion of the book, he says; "Vanity of vanity, all is vanity and striving after the wind"

Solomon's final statement on the meaning of life:

"The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person." (12:13)

Jesus was the only one who perfectly obeyed the commandments of God, living a sinless life  
2Cor 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

"God will bring every act to judgment, everything thing hidden, whether it is good or evil." (12:14)

Jesus is the light of the world through whom all the deeds of humanity will be exposed.

Jn 8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

Jn 3:20 "For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed."

"God will judge both the righteous man and the wicked man," for every matter and deed (Ecl 3:17).  
The righteous are only those who are in Christ (2Cor 5:21).

God has placed the desire for eternity in our hearts (Ecl 3:11)  
He has provided the Way to eternal life through Christ (Jn 3:16).

Striving after the world's wealth is vanity because it does not satisfy (Ecl 5:10),  
If you attain it without Christ, you will lose your soul and what profit is that? (Mk 8:36)

Ultimately, every disappointment and vanity described in Ecclesiastes has its remedy in Christ, the wisdom of God and the only true meaning to be found in life.

## Conclusion:

Ecclesiastes offers the Christian an opportunity to understand the emptiness and despair that those who do not know God grapple with. Those who do not have a saving faith in Christ are faced with a life that will ultimately end and become irrelevant. If there is no salvation, and no God, then not only is there no point to life, but no purpose or direction to it, either. The world "under the sun," apart from God, is frustrating, cruel, unfair, brief, and "utterly meaningless." But with Christ, life is but a shadow of the glories to come in a heaven that is only accessible through Him.