

Judgement Day – Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

13 The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

The thing Ecclesiastes point us to is God's judgement. In doing so, it reminds us that what we see is not the whole story. Solomon was focused throughout Ecclesiastes on life "under the sun" – and struggles with it mightily. We can easily do the same thing.

- 1) What were some of Solomon's struggles with life under the sun?**
- 2) If we go by just what we see, what conclusion would draw about God? The world? Ourselves?**

The judgement of God immediate makes us zoom out and see things in their full context. What we see here-and-now changes in light of eternity. Things will be set right. This is a double-edged sword outside of Christ.

- 3) Why is God's judgement a source of hope to hold onto as we suffer and grieve the "vanity" of life here?**
- 4) We can sometimes see the evil out there as a bigger deal, but the most dangerous thing for us in light of God's judgement is the sin we ourselves commit. Why? What are the implications of this for our life here?**
- 5) How does Jesus fundamentally change Judgement Day?**

In Christ, we look forward to Judgement Day as relief from the curse of sin and our commendation in Him. It can make hard to stay, or to understand why we can't skip ahead to it Understanding what God is doing in the world helps us to know what to be about as we wait. Read 2 Peter 3:3-13:

- 6) Why has God not ended things yet?**
- 7) How does understanding his purposes in the world help us understand our own, not just as individuals, but as a church?**

PRAYER

How are you struggling with life "under the sun" right now? In what ways are you struggling to see life in light of the whole story of what God is doing? Let us know so we can pray and walk with you.