

Hebel: The Enigma of Life

Living My Best Life

INTRODUCTION

TEXT: ECCLESIASTES 1:1-14 (NRS)

Thought experiment:

All I need right now to be happy is _____.

ECCLESIASTES and WISDOM LITERATURE

- A. Canon:
- B. Genre: Wisdom Literature
- C. Role and Purpose of Biblical Wisdom Literature

KEY CONCEPTS FROM ECCLESIASTES

Key #1: Wisdom (חֵכְמָה, *chokma*)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| A. The Call of Wisdom | Proverbs 8.1-5 |
| B. The Value of Wisdom | 8.6-11 |
| C. The Authority of Wisdom | 8.12-21 |
| D. The Divine Origin of Wisdom | 8.22-31 |
| E. The Offer of Wisdom | 8.32-36 |

Key #2: Under the sun

Key #3: Chasing after the wind

Key #4: Hebel

LESSONS FOR TODAY

1. _____ HeBeL
2. _____ OF THE LORD
3. _____ GOD'S GIFT OF LIFE

1. We encourage you to watch the videos and/or listen to the podcasts by the [Bible Project](#) we will link them here:

This video is on the wisdom literature

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/wisdom-ecclesiastes/>

This link is to the overview of Ecclesiastes

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/ecclesiastes/>

Here is a link to all the videos and the podcasts

[https://bibleproject.com/search/#?cludoquery=ecclesiastes&cludopage=1&cludorefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fbibleproject.com%2Fbible-studies%2F&cludorefpt=Small%20Group%20Bible%20Studies%20%7C%20BibleProject™&cludorefact=ecclesiastes&cludorefaci=1&cludoinputtype=standard](https://bibleproject.com/search/#?cludoquery=ecclesiastes&cludopage=1&cludorefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fbibleproject.com%2Fbible-studies%2F&cludorefpt=Small%20Group%20Bible%20Studies%20%7C%20BibleProject%26cludorefact=ecclesiastes&cludorefaci=1&cludoinputtype=standard)

2. What is a book of the bible that you didn't expect to have an impact on your life but after study you experienced a change of perspective and found the truth of 2 Timothy 3:16-17

3. What is your experience with Ecclesiastes? Have you read it all the way through? What thoughts did you have?

5. The themes of time, death, and chance come out in the book of Ecclesiastes. What is your relationship with time? What is your relationship with death? What is your relationship with chance?

4. What are your thoughts on hevel/enigma? What are your thoughts on the apparent enigma of life?

6. Ecclesiastes forces us to ask the hard questions and makes us consider things we would rather not. Why is it hard for people to think about God, eternity and death?

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