



## Satisfaction – Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

### SCRIPTURE:

Ecclesiastes 2:1-10

*I said to myself, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good." But that also proved to be meaningless. "Laughter," I said, "is madness. And what does pleasure accomplish?" I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly—my mind still guiding me with wisdom. I wanted to see what was good for people to do under the heavens during the few days of their lives. I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees. I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me. I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired male and female singers, and a harem as well—the delights of a man's heart. I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me. In all this my wisdom stayed with me. I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my labor, and this was the reward for all my toil. Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.*

Proverbs 31:30

*Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.*

John 10:10

*I came that you may have life and have it to the full.*

Acts 20:35

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive."*

Matthew 6:25-34

*"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life. "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So do not worry, saying,*

*'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

### **Sermon Quotes:**

*"I think everybody should get rich and famous and do everything they ever dreamed of so they can see that it's not the answer."*

*– Jim Carrey*

### **Sermon Points:**

- *"Meaningless" – Hevel – not a total lack of meaning in everything, but rather that meaning is found elsewhere. (Breath or Smoke)*
- *"Under the sun" – is basically talking about life as we experience it in our temporary time frame. It is both a spatial reference and a time reference.*
- *Laughter*
- *Alcohol*
- *Projects*
- *Wealth*
- *Entertainment*
- *Sex*
- *Power*
- *Work*

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What is your favorite song with the word "satisfaction" in it? Do you have any memories associated with that song?
2. What would you "fill in the blank" with in the following statement – I will be happy when (fill in the blank)?
3. What do you think is the relationship between the U.S. being the most prosperous nation ever and the fact that we also have more anxiety, depression and anxiety than ever before?
4. Which of the following have you looked to in the past or present to satisfy your soul? (Laughter, alcohol, projects, wealth, entertainment, sex, power and/or work?) Did it/they satisfy?
5. What can we learn from Jesus' "You Only Live Once" verses in Matthew 6:25-34 that will help us find true satisfaction?
6. Have you come to the place in your life where you know that your soul finds satisfaction, rest, security and significance in Christ alone? What does that mean to you?
7. What is one thing God spoke to your heart today? What is God calling you to do in response to what you heard?

- If you need help figuring out your “next steps,” including finding a counselor or a Small Group connection, then email [connect@covechurch.com](mailto:connect@covechurch.com).