

Wednesday Night, Survey Service: Week 54
Ecclesiastes 6 – 12, Song of Solomon 1 – 8, Isaiah 1 – 4
Ephesians 5 (5:14) – 6, Philippians 1 - 2

Ecclesiastes 6: Who can say what's next?

Key Point:

All the things men strive for – wealth, a huge estate, long life, satisfying labor – are all empty in the end.

Key Verse - Ecclesiastes 6:12 (NLT)

In the few days of our meaningless lives, who knows how our days can best be spent? Our lives are like a shadow. Who can tell what will happen on this earth after we are gone?

Ecclesiastes 7: A good name is better

Key Point:

A balanced life is the wisest course of action, so stay away from immorality and keep your eyes on God and His ways.

Key Verse - Ecclesiastes 7:1 (NLT)

A good reputation is more valuable than costly perfume. And the day you die is better than the day you are born.

Ecclesiastes 8: It is well for those who fear God

Key Point:

Those who fear God are in better shape because the wicked will die and be forgotten. So live for the moment but keep eternity in mind concerning how you live.

Key Verse - Ecclesiastes 8:12 (NLT)

But even though a person sins a hundred times and still lives a long time, I know that those who fear God will be better off.

Ecclesiastes 9: Whatever you do

Key Point:

We should live well, enjoy our wives, live joyfully, and pursue our interests knowing that life doesn't always make sense nor is it always fair.

Key Verse - Ecclesiastes 9:10 (NLT)

Whatever you do, do well. For when you go to the grave, there will be no work or planning or knowledge or wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 10: Sharpen your axe

Key Point:

Foolishness manifests itself in public, it leads to self-inflicted suffering, and can corrupt entire nations

Key Verse - Ecclesiastes 10:10 (NLT)

Using a dull ax requires great strength, so sharpen the blade. That’s the value of wisdom; it helps you succeed.

Ecclesiastes 11: Cast your bread upon the water

Key Point:

Do not allow yourself to suffer paralysis from analysis – you don’t know all ends so be diligent whether you’re young or old.

Key Verse - Ecclesiastes 11:1 (NLT)

Send your grain across the seas, and in time, profits will flow back to you.

Ecclesiastes 12: Conclusion

Key Point:

In the end the only thing that makes sense is fearing God, keeping His commandments and remember that He will judge it all.

Key Verse - Ecclesiastes 12:13 – 14 (NLT)

That’s the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone’s duty. 14 God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad.

Song of Solomon 1: Let him kiss me

Key Point:

Sexual intimacy between a man and his wife is a beautiful, poetic thing that a married couple should celebrate and enjoy.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 1:2 (NLT)

Kiss me and kiss me again, for your love is sweeter than wine.

Song of Solomon 2: The rose of Sharon

Key Point:

A husband should seek to help his wife feel confident in her body-image, safe, and secure, because when he does she will see him as strong and dependable, she will honor him, and seek to protect their intimacy from little distractions.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 2:1 – 2 (NLT)

I am the spring crocus blooming on the Sharon Plain, the lily of the valley. 2 Like a lily among thistles is my darling among young women.

Song of Solomon 3: I sought him

Key Point:

It is not good for man and wife to be separated too long. When we reconnect we should take care not to take one another for granted.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 3:1 (NLT)

One night as I lay in bed, I yearned for my lover. I yearned for him, but he did not come.

Song of Solomon 4: You are beautiful

Key Point:

There is great beauty and joy in two virgins getting married. Together they can explore the joy of marriage intimacy and heaven itself encourages them to do so.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 4:7 (NLT)

You are altogether beautiful, my darling, beautiful in every way.

Song of Solomon 5: I have come into my garden

Key Point:

Neglecting intimacy can damage oneness in a marriage and sometimes we don't realize what that means until that intimacy is missing.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 5:1 (NLT)

I have entered my garden, my treasure, my bride! I gather myrrh with my spices and eat honeycomb with my honey. I drink wine with my milk.

Song of Solomon 6: I am my beloved's**Key Point:**

A wife should feel cherished above all other women in the mind and heart of her beloved.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 6:3 (NLT)

I am my lover's, and my lover is mine. He browses among the lilies.

Song of Solomon 7: How beautiful you are**Key Point:**

It is good for a man to desire his wife; a wife should respond to his desire and invite him to be intimate with her.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 7:1 (NLT)

How beautiful are your sandaled feet, O queenly maiden. Your rounded thighs are like jewels, the work of a skilled craftsman.

Song of Solomon 8: Many waters**Key Point:**

Sexual intimacy is a seal of the heart in marriage so, as we are growing up, we should be chaste because that is greatly valuable and leads to confidence and trust.

Key Verse - Song of Solomon 8:7 (NLT)

Many waters cannot quench love, nor can rivers drown it. If a man tried to buy love with all his wealth, his offer would be utterly scorned.

Isaiah 1: Wash yourselves**Key Point:**

God is reasonable. He does not want to discipline so He calls out to us to see the plight of our condition and repent.

Key Verse - Isaiah 1:16 (NLT)

Wash yourselves and be clean! Get your sins out of my sight. Give up your evil ways.

Isaiah 2: The Lord alone will be exalted**Key Point:**

There is a coming glorious kingdom of Messiah which should excite us to live Godly lives in the present, but if we don't we should know there is also a day of terrifying judgment coming too.

Key Verse - Isaiah 2:17 (NLT)

Human pride will be humbled, and human arrogance will be brought down. Only the Lord will be exalted on that day of judgment.

Isaiah 3: Leadership vacuum**Key Point:**

God allows the consequences of our actions which will defeat human pride. It is wise to seek the Lord from the heart, avoid vanity and immorality, and never exploit others.

Key Verse - Isaiah 3:10 – 11 (NLT)

Tell the godly that all will be well for them. They will enjoy the rich reward they have earned! 11 But the wicked are doomed, for they will get exactly what they deserve.

Isaiah 4: Seven women**Key Point:**

God has a reason for allowing judgment because once sin is purged, He will usher in a time of glory and renewal.

Key Verse - Isaiah 4:3 (NLT)

All who remain in Zion will be a holy people— those who survive the destruction of Jerusalem and are recorded among the living.

Ephesians 5: Be wise: wives and husbands**Key Point:**

There is an order in the church and the home so each man should love His wife as much as Jesus loves the church, and each wife should honor and respect her husband.

Key Verse - Ephesians 5:15 – 16 (NLT)

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. 16 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. 17 Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

Ephesians 6: We wrestle not

Key Point:

Our struggle in life is not physical because there is a spiritual world that influences everyone, so we need to be equipped spiritually with God's truth, living right, readiness to share the good news, with faith in God, our minds set on our salvation, and by being strong in God's word.

Key Verse - Ephesians 6:12 (NLT)

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Philippians 1: A good work in you

Key Point:

Our lives should be so dedicated to the Lord that whether we live or die, we live for Him regardless of any hardship He allows us to endure.

Key Verse - Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Philippians 2: He emptied Himself

Key Point:

Jesus took on human flesh and had a full human nature, albeit without sin. In His humanity, He learned just as we do and chose humility just as we should.

Key Verse - Philippians 2: 6 – 9

Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. 7 Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, 8 he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. 9 Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names...