

## Introduction

People are groping in darkness looking for life in all sorts of places because they think that life can be found somewhere outside of God.

The book of Ecclesiastes there's a chronicle of the life of a man who sought to find meaning outside of God.

He sought it in...

...pleasure. 2:1

...possessions. V. 4-8

...knowledge. v. 12ff

...work. V. 18 – 20

...political power. 4; 13-16

His conclusion: 1:2-3, 8

In this time of intense darkness we must:

**1. Keep the focus on Jesus** (John 1:1-4)

Jesus is the only hope for enlightenment in this world

**2. Be aware of the spiritual reality of the world** (John 1:5)

Why can't we be upset with people who cannot beauty of Christ in the World?

2 Corinthians 4:4

Ephesians 6:12

The battlefield is not political, racial, cultural or economic, but the person of Jesus Christ

John 14:6

Matthew 16:13-15

**3. We must bear witness to the light** (John 1:6-9)

We have no source of light on our own, but merely reflect the Son's light.

We cannot allow ourselves to get in the way and keep the light from being properly reflected it to those who orb around and view us.

How do we do this?

We must speak the truth. 2 Corinthians 4:1-2

God's story, the gospel, not our story, must be the main story

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

1 Corinthians 2:4,5

Allow your brokenness to keep you humble, but not to make you mute.

2 Corinthians 4:7