

Pastor
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The man who HAD IT ALL: *Solomon*

First
FIRST FORTY FIVE

THE MEANING OF LIFE | ECCLESIASTES

EVERYTHING IS _____.

“¹These are the words of the Teacher, King David’s son, who ruled in Jerusalem. ²“Everything is meaningless,” says the Teacher, “completely meaningless!” ³What do people get for all their hard work under the sun? ⁴Generations come and generations go, but the earth never changes. ⁵The sun rises and the sun sets, then hurries around to rise again. ⁶The wind blows south, and then turns north. Around and around it goes, blowing in circles. ⁷Rivers run into the sea, but the sea is never full. Then the water returns again to the rivers and flows out again to the sea. ⁸Everything is wearisome beyond description. No matter how much we see, we are never satisfied. No matter how much we hear, we are not content.”

ECCLESIASTES 1:1-8 (NLT)

- _____ IS **M** (Ecclesiastes 1:17-18)
- _____ IS **E** (Ecclesiastes 2:1-3)
- _____ IS **A**
- _____ IS **N** (Ecclesiastes 2:18-19)
- _____ IS **I** (Ecclesiastes 3:16, 5:8)
- _____ IS **N**
- _____ IS **G** (Ecclesiastes 4:4)
- _____ IS **L** (Ecclesiastes 4:13-16)
- _____ IS **E**
- _____ IS **S** (Ecclesiastes 5:10-11, 6:1-2)
- _____ IS **S** (Ecclesiastes 9:3-6)

EVERYTHING

IS MEANINGLESS

SO WHAT?

ENJOY YOUR _____.

“ So I saw that there is nothing better for people than to be happy in their work. That is our lot in life. And no one can bring us back to see what happens after we die.”

ECCLESIASTES 3:22 (NLT)

ENJOY YOUR _____.

“ So I decided there is nothing better than to enjoy food and drink and to find satisfaction in work. Then I realized that these pleasures are from the hand of God. For who can eat or enjoy anything apart from him?”

ECCLESIASTES 2:24-25 (NLT)

“ Even so, I have noticed one thing, at least, that is good. It is good for people to eat, drink, and enjoy their work under the sun during the short life God has given them, and to accept their lot in life. And it is a good thing to receive wealth from God and the good health to enjoy it. To enjoy your work and accept your lot in life - this is indeed a gift from God.”

ECCLESIASTES 5:18-19 (NLT)

ENJOY YOUR _____ .

“ So I recommend having fun, because there is nothing better for people in this world than to eat, drink, and enjoy life. That way they will experience some happiness along with all the hard work God gives them under the sun.”

ECCLESIASTES 8:15 (NLT)

“ So go ahead. Eat your food with joy, and drink your wine with a happy heart, for God approves of this! Wear fine clothes, with a splash of cologne! Live happily with the woman you love through all the meaningless days of life that God has given you under the sun. The wife God gives you is your reward for all your earthly toil.”

ECCLESIASTES 9:7-9 (NLT)

ENJOY THE _____ OF LIFE.

“ For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up. A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance.”

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-4 (NLT)

So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can. And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God.”

ECCLESIASTES 3:12-13 (NLT)

ENJOY THE _____ .

“ God keeps such people so busy enjoying life that they take no time to brood over the past.”

ECCLESIASTES 5:20 (NLT)

_____ WHO IS _____ THE MEANINGLESS.

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

ECCLESIASTES 12:13-14 (NLT)

DISCUSSION *Questions*

- 1 - What are some common ways our world defines the meaning of Life?
- 2 - How has your view on the meaning of life changed over time? Why?
- 3 - How have you seen an area of your life become meaningless?
- 4 - Re-read Ecclesiastes 1:1-8, How do you respond to the Idea that everything is meaningless?
- 5 - Re-read Ecclesiastes 2:24-25, Why do some people enjoy their work and others grind away for years and years?
- 6 - Re-read Ecclesiastes 5:18-20, How do we struggle to truly live in, and enjoy the moment?
- 7 - What area of life are you struggling to enjoy right now? How can trusting God allow you to enjoy this area again?