

REALITY CHECK

WEEK 7

SEPT 18
2022

Discovering life's meaning
in the book of Ecclesiastes

The Way of Escape

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?”

~ Jesus Luke 9:23-25

Ecclesiastes 6:1-6 *Got it All!*

I have seen another evil under the sun, and it weighs heavily on mankind: **God gives** some people wealth, possessions and honor, so that they lack nothing their hearts desire, but **God does not** grant them the ability to enjoy them, and strangers enjoy them instead. This is meaningless, a grievous evil.

A man may have a hundred children and live many years; yet no matter how long he lives, if he cannot enjoy his prosperity and does not receive **proper burial**, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he.

It comes without meaning, it departs in darkness, and in darkness its name is shrouded. Though it never saw the sun or knew anything, it has more rest than does that man— even if he lives a thousand years twice over but fails to enjoy his prosperity.

Do not all go to the same place?

Ecclesiastes 6:7-11

Deep Thoughts

- Everyone's toil is for their mouth, yet their appetite is **never satisfied**.
- What advantage have the wise over fools?
- What do the poor gain by knowing how to conduct themselves before others?
- **Better** what the eye sees than the roving of the appetite. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.
- Whatever exists has already been named, and what humanity has been known; no one can contend with someone who is stronger.
- The more the words, the **less the meaning**, and how does that profit anyone?

*Our God is a God who saves;
from the Sovereign Lord comes escape from death.
Psalm 68:20*

Ecclesiastes 6:12 *Few & Meaningless Days*

For who knows what is good for a person in life, during the **few and meaningless days they pass through like a shadow**? Who can tell them what will happen under the sun after they are gone?

“Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through **me will be saved**. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**”

~ Jesus John 10:9-10