

The Ultimate Resolution

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1 Timothy 4:7b-8

On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; ⁸for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

1 Kings 10:6-8

⁶Then she said to the king, "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. ⁷Nevertheless I did not believe the reports, until I came and my eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. You exceed in wisdom and prosperity the report which I heard. ⁸How blessed are your men, how blessed are these

1 Kings 10:6-8

your servants who stand before you continually and hear your wisdom.

1 Kings 11:1-4

¹Now King Solomon loved many foreign women along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, ²from the nations concerning which the LORD had said to the sons of Israel, "You shall not associate with them, nor shall they associate with you, for they will surely turn your heart away after their

1 Kings 11:1-4

gods." Solomon held fast to these in love. ³He had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives turned his heart away. ⁴For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

- **There is vanity in our work (2:18-19)**

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Ecclesiastes 2:18-19

¹⁸Thus I hated all the fruit of my labor for which I had labored under the sun, for I must leave it to the man who will come after me. ¹⁹And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the fruit of my labor for which I have labored by acting wisely under the sun. This too is vanity.

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Ecclesiastes 2:18-19

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

- **There is vanity in our work (2:18-19)**
- **There is vanity in wealth and pleasure (2:1-11)**

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

¹⁰All that my eyes desired I did not refuse them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, for my heart was pleased because of all my labor and this was my reward for all my labor. ¹¹Thus I considered all my activities which my hands had done and the labor which I had exerted, and behold all was vanity and striving after wind and

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

there was no profit under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 5:10

¹⁰He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is vanity.

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

- **There is vanity in our work (2:18-19)**
- **There is vanity in wealth and pleasure (2:1-11)**
- **There is vanity in wisdom (1:17-18)**

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Ecclesiastes 1:17-18

¹⁷And I set my mind to know wisdom and to know madness and folly; I realized that this also is striving after wind. ¹⁸Because in much wisdom there is much grief, and increasing knowledge results in increasing pain.

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Ecclesiastes 1:17-18

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

- **There is vanity in our work (2:18-19)**
- **There is vanity in wealth and pleasure (2:1-11)**
- **There is vanity in wisdom (1:17-18)**
- **There is vanity even in righteousness (9:1-2)**

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Ecclesiastes 9:1-2

¹For I have taken all this to my heart and explain it that righteous men, wise men, and their deeds are in the hand of God. Man does not know whether it will be love or hatred; anything awaits him. ²It is the same for all. There is one fate for the righteous and for the wicked; for the good, for the clean and for the unclean; for the man who offers a sacrifice

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Ecclesiastes 9:1-2

Ecclesiastes 9:1-2

and for the one who does not sacrifice. As the good man is, so is the sinner; as the swearer is, so is the one who is afraid to swear.

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

- **There is vanity in our work (2:18-19)**
- **There is vanity in wealth and pleasure (2:1-11)**
- **There is vanity in wisdom (1:17-18)**
- **There is vanity even in righteousness (9:1-2)**

Ecclesiastes 9:7-9

⁷Go then, eat your bread in happiness and drink your wine with a cheerful heart; for God has already approved your works. ⁸Let your clothes be white all the time, and let not oil be lacking on your head. ⁹Enjoy life with the woman whom you love all the days of your fleeting life which He has given to you under the sun; for this is your reward in life

Ecclesiastes 9:7-9

and in your toil in which you have labored under the sun.

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Theme of Ecclesiastes: The remedy for vanity is the fear of God!

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

¹³The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. ¹⁴For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Theme: Meaning and joy in life are found by fearing and obeying God.

Aspect 1: One Universal Principle (13)

Principle 1: Our Attitude Towards God

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Douglas Sean O'Donnell-

summarizes the fear of God as “Trembling Trust”.

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Ecclesiastes 9:7-9

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Aspect 1: One Universal Principle (13)

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Ecclesiastes 3:14

¹⁴I know that everything God does will remain forever; there is nothing to add to it and there is nothing to take from it, for God has so worked that men should fear Him.

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Ecclesiastes 3:14

Ecclesiastes 8:12

¹²Although a sinner does evil a hundred times and may lengthen his life, still I know that it will be well for those who fear God, who fear Him openly.

Deuteronomy 10:12-13

¹²“Now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require from you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³and to keep the LORD’S commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?

1 Peter 1:17-19

¹⁷If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; ¹⁸knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, ¹⁹but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished

1 Peter 1:17-19

and spotless, the blood of Christ.

2 Corinthians 7:1

¹Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Theme: Meaning and joy in life are found by fearing and obeying God.

Aspect 1: One Universal Principle (13)

Principle 1: Our Attitude Towards God

Principle 2: Our Actions Towards God

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

¹"Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the judgments which the LORD your God has commanded me to teach you, that you might do them in the land where you are going over to possess it, ²so that you and your son and your grandson might fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.

Joshua 24:14

¹⁴“Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

O'Donnell -

To fear God embodies faith and hope in God, as well as a genuine love for him. And when, by the gift of God, someone possesses the fear of God, sin loses its sweetness and strength. Obedience to the Word of God follows naturally because it becomes the delight of the soul.

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Philip Ryken-

In other words, “this is what life is all about.” The most important thing for any person to do is to worship God and obey his holy commandments. This is more than simply a man’s duty. According to Charles Bridges, it is “his whole happiness and business—the total sum of all that concerns him—

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Joshua 24:14

Philip Ryken-

all that God requires of him—all that the Savior enjoins—all that the Holy Spirit teaches and works in him.” The greatest thing in life is to come before the one true God in worship and obedience.

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Joshua 24:14

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James 1:17

¹⁷Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

Psalms 119:68

⁶⁸You are good and do good;
Teach me Your statutes.

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Proverbs 4:19

¹⁹The way of the wicked is like darkness;
They do not know over what they stumble.

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Proverbs 4:19

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Aspect 2: One Universal Application (14)

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Romans 8:1

¹Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

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Romans 8:1

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Aspect 2: One Universal Application (14)

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1 Corinthians 3:12-15

¹²Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,
¹³each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. ¹⁴If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If any man's

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1 Corinthians 3:12-15

1 Corinthians 3:12-15

work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

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Aspect 2: One Universal Application (14)

Revelation 20:11-15

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things

Revelation 20:11-15

which were written in the books, according to their deeds. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. ¹⁴Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵And if anyone's

Revelation 20:11-15

name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

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Aspect 2: One Universal Application (14)

Ecclesiastes 11:9

⁹Rejoice, young man, during your childhood, and let your heart be pleasant during the days of young manhood. And follow the impulses of your heart and the desires of your eyes. Yet know that God will bring you to judgment for all these things.

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Aspect 2: One Universal Application (14)

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Conclusion

Resolution 1: Honor God with Your Attitude

Resolution 2: Honor God with Your Actions

Resolution 3: Honor God with Your Enjoyment

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1 Timothy 6:17

¹⁷Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

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1 Timothy 6:17

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Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Conclusion

Resolution 1: Honor God with Your Attitude

Resolution 2: Honor God with Your Actions

Resolution 3: Honor God with Your Enjoyment