



The Book of ECCLESIASTES

Chapters 5 - 7

“Lessons In Futility & Fruitfulness!”

Go for God!

Chapter 5 - “God, Government & Life!”

(v1-6) **Four Responsibilities before God**

- 1- **Draw Near to Hear** (v1)
- 2- **Pray thoughtfully** (v2-3)
- 3- **Keep your Promises** (v4-5)
- 4- **Fear God** (v6-7)

(v8-9) **Government’s Accountability – Romans Ch. 13**

(v10-17) **Materialistic Vanity - James 4:1-10**

(v18) **Enjoy the good of your labor it is the gift of God - 1 Peter 3:8-12- *Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. For “He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil.”***

Chapter 6 - “Lessons For Life”

(v1-2) **A lesson in judgment**

(v3-6) **The unsatisfied soul (Satisfaction in life comes through “GOODNESS” - The quality of being good; praiseworthy character; moral excellence. The Bible speaks often of the goodness of God (Ex 33:19; Rom 2:4). God's goodness consists of righteousness, holiness, justice, kindness, grace, mercy, and love. Goodness is also one of the fruits of the Spirit that should characterize Christian believers (Gal 5:22). Christians are called to goodness, even as God the Father is perfect and good (Matt 5:48). (From Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)**

(v7-9) **The vanity of wandering desire**

(v10-12) **Don’t contend with God - Be “CONTENT” – Contentment is freedom from anxiety or worry. The idea of contentment comes from a Greek word that means "independence" or "self-sufficiency." But the apostle Paul used the word in a Christian sense to show that real satisfaction or sufficiency comes from God: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13).**

Chapter 7 - “The Preacher Speaks of This & That”

(v1-4) **A GOOD name is better! (Good names: Hebrews Ch. 11)**

(v5-7) **Wisdom & Foolishness**

(v6-10) **Character & Attitude**

(v11-12) **Wisdom & Knowledge**

(v12-14) **Prosperity & Adversity**

(v15-18) **Righteousness & Wickedness**

(v19-20) **Wisdom & Reality**

(v21-22) **People & Us**

(v23-26) **Sin’s folly & God’s Escape - Luke 21:34-36- *“But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”***

Rom 2:2-4-*But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?*

1 Cor 10:12-13- *Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

1 Thess 5:3-4- *For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not **escape**. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.*

Heb 2:1-4- *Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we **escape** if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?*

(v27-29) Discovery & Mystery