



## MESSAGE NOTES

PRACTICAL TEACHING FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Title: **The Vapor of Life**  
Series: **Chasing the Wind**  
Text: **Ecc. 1:1-11**  
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**We spend our lives striving to have something, be something, accomplish something of real meaning. But too often the things that we keep grasping for fail to deliver what they seemed to have promised. The book of Ecclesiastes offers us an incredible perspective on what really matters in life.**

- We believe that Solomon the 3rd king of Israel was the author of 3 books in our Bibles, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and **Ecclesiastes**.
- We are born in sin with the damage of a twisted self-centered nature, but we are not born \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our \_\_\_\_\_ to desire **cannot be trusted** on its own.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ desires for belonging and approval
  - \_\_\_\_\_ desires for intimacy and connection
  - \_\_\_\_\_ desires for possessions and wealth,
  - \_\_\_\_\_ desires for success and power,
  - \_\_\_\_\_ desires for freedom and independence
- All our desires must be \_\_\_\_\_ by scripture and the discernment of the Spirit, they must be **restrained** and shaped in a disciplined life, and they must be held \_\_\_\_\_.
- Solomon was \_\_\_\_\_ **by God** to be king.

- God granted Solomon \_\_\_\_\_ beyond what anyone had ever known.

*“I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both wealth and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings.”* 1 Kings 3:12-13

- Solomon came to this conclusion. *“I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my labor, and this was the reward for all my toil. Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.”* Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

- The word \_\_\_\_\_ in the original Hebrew language conveys the idea of something **being vapor**. You’ll always be grasping for something that will never deliver what you think.

- Solomon discovered that his life found real meaning through...
  - \_\_\_\_\_ **and awe of God,**
  - \_\_\_\_\_ **labor**
  - **Simple** \_\_\_\_\_