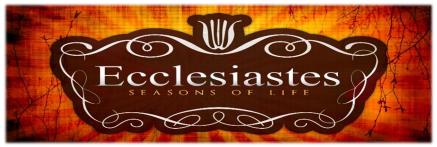
Wednesday Evening Bible Study Ecclesiastes Series 05/06/2020 Stephen H. Converse Lesson #14



"DON'T WORRY – FEAR GOD – BE HAPPY" Ecclesiastes 8:10-17

THE FEAR OF THE LORD - Psa 111:10, 19:9, 2:11; Prov 23:17, 22:4

HOW DO WE FEAR GOD? 1. <u>REMEMBER</u> YOUR ACCOUNTABILITY TO GOD - 10-13

But there are really four issues involved in that.

There is the <u>PROBLEM</u> of how the wicked are treated in life – 10

• There is the **PRESUMPTION** that you can sin without being judged - 11 People say this continually. In light of this, several presumptions are often made:

- \rightarrow God is indifferent
- → God is helpless to do anything
- → God shows favoritism; He judges some but not others
- There is the **POSITION** of the believer 12

Mark 10:24-30; Rom.8:28-29

• There is the **<u>PUNISHMENT</u>** of the wicked - 13

Psalm 102:11 - "My days are like a shadow that lengthens, and I wither away like grass."

Psalm 109:23 - "I am gone like a shadow when it lengthens; I am shaken off like a locust."

Psalm 1:4-6 – "⁴The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away. ⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; ⁶ for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

2. <u>REALIZE</u> THE IMPORTANCE OF TODAY - 14-15

- By **EVALUATING** carefully what happens to both the righteous and the wicked 14
- By ENJOYING the common experiences of each day 15

• By **EXALTING** God who makes it all possible - 15b 1 Chronicles 29:12-14; 1 Corinthians 4:7; Romans 11:36

3. <u>RECOGNIZE</u> THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO KNOW THE WORK OF GOD - 16-17

- It is impossible no matter how much **<u>TIME</u>** we have 16
- It is impossible no matter how much EFFORT we put into it 17a
- It is impossible no matter how much WISDOM we have 17

God is in control. Rest in the Lord. (Ps. 37:3-7; Prov. 3:5-6; Phil. 4:6-7; Jas. 4:13-17). We need to rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him.