

Ecclesiastes: Finding Purpose (5)

Jesse Berthold / February 14, 2024

Ecclesiastes: Be Happy (5)

BE HAPPY

Ecclesiastes 3:9–13 (NLT)

⁹ What do people really get for all their hard work? ¹⁰ I have seen the burden God has placed on us all. ¹¹ Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end. ¹² So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can. ¹³ And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God.

Verse 9 “What do people really get for all their hard work?”

Ecclesiastes 1:3 (NLT) “What do people get for all their hard work under the sun?”

Verse 10 “I have seen the **burden** God has placed on us all.”

BURDEN = Need = Need or a desire...

Jeremiah 1:5 (NLT) “I knew you before I formed you in your mother’s womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations.”

1 Thessalonians 4:11–12 (NLT) Make it your goal to live a quiet life, minding your own business and working with your hands, just as we instructed you before. ¹² Then people who are not believers will respect the way you live, and you will not need to depend on others.

Ephesians 4:28 (NLT) “... use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need.”

Verse 11 = Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time.

Verses 11-13 = Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end. ¹² So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can. ¹³ And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God.

1. Be Happy and do good!

Verse 12 = “So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can.”

John 1:4 (NLT) The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.

John 10:10 (NLT) The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

Acts 10:38 (NLT) "... Jesus went around doing good..."

2. Enjoy the fruits of our labor!

Verse 13 = "And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God."