

Ecclesiastes

Avon Heights, 4th Quarter, 2009

LESSON # 8:

Sun. Nov. 29th

Reading:

- Eccl. 12:1-14

For Sunday, Nov. 29th

1. Ecclesiastes 12 completes the 5th and final cycle and presents us with Solomon's conclusion. Take a minute to fill in the last two boxes on your Ecclesiastes chart and be prepared to discuss Ecclesiastes' theme in class. Consider the following questions as you complete your chart:
 2. What kind of life is described in the upper part of the chart, the "vanity", "under the sun" part of the cycles? What should we learn from that?
 3. What kind of life is described in the lower part of the chart, the "God" part of the cycles? What should we learn from that?
4. Describe the big picture of verses 1-7. What is the main point? How is this point connected to 11:7-10 as well as the rest of the book?
5. What is growing old compared to in v. 2?
6. What else is it compared to in vs. 3-4a?
7. What is described in vs. 4b-7? How have you explained some of the metaphors in these verses?
8. Where else in Ecclesiastes has Solomon talked about death?

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Eccl. 12:8

9. Why does Solomon repeat his main point (from 1:2) here at the end of the book?

Eccl. 12:9-12

10. According to vs. 9-10, why should we listen to The Preacher? What has qualified him to instruct us?
11. In vs. 11-12, what final instructions/warnings does Solomon give us before finishing? Have you ever heard or known of anyone who did what v. 12 warns against? What happened to them?

Eccl. 12:13-14

12. After everything that has been explored by Solomon, what conclusion did he reach in v. 13?
13. What is Solomon confident of in v. 14? Why is this so important? Why do you think the book ends with this verse and not verse 13?

Thought Questions:

1. What part of Ecclesiastes has changed/impacted your life the most as you studied through it this time?
2. What have you been tempted to pursue during your life “under the sun”? What has God allowed you to realize is empty?
3. What has helped you to remember your creator and fear God?
4. Solomon obviously found ultimate value in 12:13. What value have you found in fearing God and keeping His commandments?