

Ecclesiastes

Avon Heights, 4th Quarter, 2009

LESSON # 5:

Wed. Nov. 4th

Reading:

- Eccl. 7:15-29

Sun. Nov. 8th

Reading:

- Eccl. 8:1-17

For Wednesday, Nov. 4th

1. Eccl. 7:15-29 continues the second half of the 4th cycle. After reading this section, write down the highlights on the Eccl. chart. Be prepared to discuss.

Eccl. 7:15-18

2. According to v. 15, what had Solomon seen during his fleeting life? How does Ps. 73:3 relate to this verse?

3. What was Solomon encouraging his listeners to avoid in v. 16?

4. Read the following passages: Pro. 3:5-7; Is. 5:21; Matt. 5:20; Matt. 6:1; Lk. 18:9. What do these verses all have in common? What kind of righteousness are they describing?

5. What was Solomon warning his readers about in v. 16? Read the following passages to help: Is. 5:18-20; Matt. 12:19; Heb. 3:12-13.

6. In v. 18, what did Solomon mean when he said, "it is good that you should take hold of this, and from that withhold not your hand"? What was the key to heeding his instruction in this passage?

Eccl. 7:19-22

7. In v. 19, what does wisdom give to the wise man, and to what degree?

8. In v. 20, what did Solomon say that the wise man must realize about himself?

Ecclesiastes

Avon Heights, 4th Quarter, 2009

For Sunday, Nov. 8th

1. Eccl. 8:1-13 concludes the second half of the 4th cycle. After reading this section, write down the highlights on the Eccl. chart. Be prepared to discuss. Eccl. 8:14-17 begin the first half of the last cycle, be prepared to discuss it as well.

Eccl. 8:1-9

2. What does the proverb of v. 1 mean and how does it relate to vs. 2-9? Consider Neh. 2:1-3.
3. What advice is Solomon giving in vs. 2-3? Is it the same as Pro. 24:21-22?
4. According to v. 4, what was Solomon's reason for his advice in the previous verses?
5. What is he advising in vs. 5-6? Can you think of any examples from the Bible of people doing this? How should we apply these verses?
6. How do vs. 7-8 fit into this discussion? There are 4 pictures in v. 8. What are they?
7. How does Solomon conclude his teaching in vs. 9-10a? Can you think of any Biblical examples of this? What should this teach us about the nature of sin?
8. How would you summarize these verses?

Ecclesiastes

Avon Heights, 4th Quarter, 2009

Eccl. 8:10-13

9. What is the meaningless thing that Solomon saw in vs. 10b-11?

10. Despite what he observes, what is Solomon confident of in vs. 12-13?

11. Solomon appears to contradict himself in vs. 12-13. What is the “contradiction” and how would you explain it?

12. What can we learn from these verses?

Eccl. 8:14-17

13. Vs. 14-15 might sound defeatist, but based on previous sections of Ecclesiastes, what is Solomon saying here? Who enables man to enjoy life? Remember chapter 5:18-20.

14. According to vs. 16-17, what does the wisest man in the world say about trying to make sense of everything? What perspective does Solomon tell us to have when someone claims to have “figured it all out”?