

The Words of the Preacher"

Sunday Evening Message by Ray Reynolds (November 10, 2013)

Introduction: In **The Story** we are considering the life of Solomon. Solomon is credited with writing three books (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs/Song of Solomon). Let's study Ecclesiastes together.....

Discussion:

I. The Vanity of Wisdom

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with human accomplishments? (**Ecclesiastes 1:1-11**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with intellectual pursuits? (**Ecclesiastes 1:12-18**)

II. The Vanity of Pleasure

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with earthly pleasures? (**Ecclesiastes 2:1-3**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with earthly possessions? (**Ecclesiastes 2:4-11**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with human wisdom? (**Ecclesiastes 2:12-16**)
- D. Can you be truly satisfied with working hard? (**Ecclesiastes 2:17-23**)
- E. Can you be truly satisfied with anything outside of God? (**Ecclesiastes 2:24-26**)

III. The Vanity of Life

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with the seasons of life? (**Ecclesiastes 3:1-15**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with justice? (**Ecclesiastes 3:16-17**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with life itself? (**Ecclesiastes 3:18-22**)

IV. The Vanity of Popularity

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with equality? (**Ecclesiastes 4:1-6**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with friendship? (**Ecclesiastes 4:7-12**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with fame? (**Ecclesiastes 4:13-14**)
- D. Can you be truly satisfied with wealth? (**Ecclesiastes 4:15-16**)

V. The Vanity of Religion

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with prudence? (**Ecclesiastes 5:1-3**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with vows? (**Ecclesiastes 5:4-7**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with moderation? (**Ecclesiastes 5:8-17**)
- D. Can you be truly satisfied with your heritage? (**Ecclesiastes 5:18-20**)

VI. The Vanity of Riches

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with the honor associated with wealth? (**Ecclesiastes 6:1-4**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with the goodness done with wealth? (**Ecclesiastes 6:5-9**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with the fame that comes with wealth? (**Ecclesiastes 6:10-12**)

VII. The Vanity of Foolishness

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with foolish thinking? (**Ecclesiastes 7:1-14**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with foolish living? (**Ecclesiastes 7:15-19**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with foolish people? (**Ecclesiastes 7:20-29**)

VIII. The Vanity of Authority

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with wise counsel? (**Ecclesiastes 8:1**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with kings and rulers? (**Ecclesiastes 8:2-9**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with anything or anyone on the earth? (**Ecclesiastes 8:10-17**)

IX. The Vanity of Work

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with the work of your hand? (**Ecclesiastes 9:1-2**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with the fruit of your labor? (**Ecclesiastes 9:3-8**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with working toward a long life? (**Ecclesiastes 9:9-12**)

X. The Vanity of Pride

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with a lifetime of honor? (**Ecclesiastes 10:1-7**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with planning ahead? (**Ecclesiastes 10:8-15**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with personal accomplishments? (**Ecclesiastes 10:16-20**)

XI. The Vanity of Knowledge

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with prophecy? (**Ecclesiastes 11:1-4**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with nature? (**Ecclesiastes 11:5-6**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with life? (**Ecclesiastes 11:7-10**)

XII. The Vanity of Youth

- A. Can you be truly satisfied with the early years? (**Ecclesiastes 12:1-5**)
- B. Can you be truly satisfied with the latter years? (**Ecclesiastes 12:6-8**)
- C. Can you be truly satisfied with the preacher's words? (**Ecclesiastes 12:9-14**)

Conclusion: The only thing that can bring you true fulfillment is a godly fear. Everything is vanity without God.