



Mist Calculating

A Study of Ecclesiastes 11

by Ray Reynolds (November 23, 2014)

Introduction: For the past several weeks we have been studying the book of Ecclesiastes. We have studied about how the Bible compares our life to dust, grass, shadow, vapor, breath, and a mist (a puff of air). James says, “*Your life is like a mist. You can see it for a short time, but then it goes away*” (James 4:14). In the last two chapters Solomon wraps up his book with some transparent conclusions. In the eleventh chapter he challenges us to invest in things of a spiritual nature. You don’t need a calculator to figure it out, but you will need a Bible and an open heart. Let’s study together...

Discussion:

I. Invest Wisely (vs.1-2)

Luke 6:38, Matthew 7:12, Luke 16:1-8, Luke 16:19-31, Luke 12:22-31,
Matthew 25:31-46, Acts 2:44-45, Acts 4:32-35, Acts 20:35, I Corinthians 16:1-2,
II Corinthians 8:1-5, II Corinthians 9:7

II. Think Wisely (vs.3-8)

Proverbs 3:5-6, James 1:5, Jeremiah 29:11, Philippians 4:6-7, Ecclesiastes 1:12-14,
Galatians 6:7-9, James 1:22, II Timothy 3:16-17

III. Live Wisely (vs.9-10)

I Timothy 4:12, Matthew 19:14, Mark 10:14, Luke 18:16, Proverbs 22:6,
Matthew 12:36, II Corinthians 5:10, Hebrews 9:27, Psalm 39:4, Psalm 90:7-12,
II Timothy 4:6-8

Conclusion: It would serve us well to the advice of godly people got off track and found their way back. One scripture, that clearly helps us see the need for mist calculating, was written by a man who had a habit of miscalculating. It took a while to figure out what his purpose was but he eventually followed God’s direction for the rest of his life. That man was the apostle Peter. He allowed John Mark to pen part of his story in a gospel account that bears Mark’s name, but he also penned two letters himself. Look at the first part of his second letter and you will see that we must add to our faith (II Peter 1:1-11). Have you made your calling and election sure? Are you ready for your entrance into the everlasting kingdom? Are you ready to meet your God? If not, get on track before it’s too late. And if you are on track, remember that you are called to lead others to the straight and narrow pathway. Let’s stop miscalculating and start mist calculating!