



Ecclesiastes

4-6

Solomon has witnessed the monotony of life and the meaningless of possessions. He now searches for justice and contentment. His journey takes him to the courthouse (4:1-3); the work place (4:4-8); the palace (4:13-16); God's house (5:1-7) and the providence of God (6:1-12).

1. This comes from his observations (4:1,7; 5:18; 6:1)

Chapter 4

A. In the courthouse: what he see is the

unfairness of life

- Solomon recognizes three injustices taking place (1-3)

O _____ was reigning

The innocent were h _____

No one seemed to c _____

- his immediate conclusion is that it is better to be dead or better yet to have never existed

B. Among Skilled labor (4-8)

- (a) industrious people (4)

- what he sees is the emptiness of mindless work

- The driving ambition was to beat the c _____

- (b) idle man (5,6)

- (c) independent man (8)

- the man who never ceases from labor but has no one to benefit from his work

- his conclusion is this is vanity (7,8)

1. Leads to a side point about friendship (9-12)

Written much like a proverb—shows the value of people

Working...walking...warmth...watching

Vanity is not used here

C. In the Palace: popularity is f _____ (13-16)

Chapter 5

D. In God's house (5:1-7)

Watch your s _____, watch your w _____, watch your v _____

1. The folly of Riches (10-17)

- does not s _____ (10)

- people want to t _____ what you have (11)

- does not bring p _____ (12)

- m _____ (13-14)

- cannot be t _____ with us (15)

- invites great s _____ (17): darkness; vexation; sickness; anger

Conclusion is to e _____ what God has given you (18)

The emptiness of wealth

Two pictures are given:

man's wealth enjoyed by a s_____ (2)

man's wealth is not enjoyed by h_____ (3)

The Characteristics of a stillborn (4-6)

Comes in futility

Goes in obscurity

Names is obscure

Never sees sun

Knows nothing

A. Questions without answers (10-12)

Things seem to be p_____ (10a)

It doesn't pay to a_____ with God (10b)

Talking doesn't c_____ anything (11)

No one knows what's n_____ (12b)

Eaton: The preacher is slamming every door except the door of faith

