

Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.



God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Ecclesiastes 12.

(2014)

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises
But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

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Ecclesiastes 12.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

INTRODUCTION: Ecclesiastes is a brilliant book that gives an overall view of human life on earth viewed as a collective whole. Its primary focus is the vanity of life on earth without God. It is viewed as vanity because what happens to the fool happens to the wise the same events (i.e., troubles, sickness, disasters, sorrows etc.), and ultimately death comes to the rich and the poor, the noble and the lowly, the wise and the fool alike and life continues on as it always has. (See also the introduction to chapter one).

NOTE: for information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

Advice to youth: enjoy it while they have it.

Eternal wisdom: remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the day of death comes and you go to you eternal home.

All is vanity: mankind is made from the dust and all dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit (the breath of life) returns to God who gave it and in this sense without God all that is achieved under the sun is vanity because everyone dies and returns to the dust.

Summary of Ecclesiastes.

All of the preachers searching for wisdom to find and understand God brought him to the following summary. No matter how wise a person maybe or much a person may study and spend time seeking to understand the work of God and His ways that is done on the earth they will not find it out. There are too many contradictions and exceptions to the general rules and laws of any given event or thing.

- God has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end (Ecclesiastes 3:11).
- In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him (Ecclesiastes 7:14).
- Then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out (Ecclesiastes 8:17).

The LORD has designed the universe this way so that no human whether righteous or wicked can find out their future or know what will happen to them tomorrow. The Preacher concludes that without God all is vanity (meaning brief, passing and meaningless) because the righteous and the wicked, the wise and the foolish all end up in the grave and are forgotten.

After all the Preachers searching to understand life on earth and God's ways he comes to the following two conclusions: -

1. To live with reverence and respect toward God.
2. To do no harm to another human.

He ends by saying this is the whole duty of every man and woman and that God will take every open and secret deed into judgment whether good or evil.

Without eternal life all that comes is meaningless, because no man or woman has power over the day of death (Eccles. 8:8) it comes to all and the days of darkness will be many (Eccles. 11:8)

FOOTNOTE: it is interesting to notice that the Preachers search to understand life on earth and understand God's ways led him to the following two conclusions, firstly, to live with reverence and respect toward God and secondly to do no harm to another human especially since the only two commandments that Jesus gave to those who desire to follow him is to: -

1. Love the Lord their God with all their heart and with all their soul and with all their mind (Matt. 22:37).

Jesus said this is the great and first commandment (Matt. 22:37-38) and the second is: -

2. Love your neighbour as yourself (Matt. 22:39-40).

Upon two commandments Jesus said all the law and the prophets depend (Matt. 22:40) and that there is no other commandment greater than these two (Mark 12:31). James the brother of Jesus wrote, "If you really fulfil the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself, you are doing well" (James 2:8) and concerning God's law Paul said, "The whole law is fulfilled in one word: You shall love your neighbour as yourself," (Gal 5:14) and that love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law (Rom. 13:10).

To, love your neighbour as yourself, means do not deliberately do harm to other humans. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself.

The thing God hates the most is when we do harm to another person, physically, financially, sexually, emotionally or spiritually and the thing God loves the most is when we do good to others. It is interesting to notice that the major crime that God points out in Noah's time and one of the main reasons for the flood was because of all the violence in the land.

- Micah wrote: "What the LORD requires of mankind is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with their God" (Micah 6:5-10).
- Isaiah says: "The LORD loves justice, hates robbery and wrong doing" (Isaiah 61:8).
- Jeremiah said: "Those who know God practise steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, because it is in these things that God delights" (Jer. 9:24).

The great prophets Micah, Isaiah and Jeremiah clearly show the law is about doing-good to others and protecting them from harm and hurt and the Preacher in his search to understand the meaning of life on earth and understand God's ways came to the same conclusion.

End