

Ecclesiastes - Vanity of Vanities - The Greatest Vanity (Emptiness)

Introduction	10 Vanities	Chapter 1
The preacher - one who calls or gathers - Ecc was read by the rabbis on Pentecost - Solomon was author - Follows Solomon's life? - Warning to the younger people - avoid walking through life with human wisdom (James 3:13-18) - Solomon made unwise decisions and bad behavior - understood faith - His life was vanity - futile attempts to be satisfied apart from God - All the earthly goals and ambitions when pursued as ends in themselves produce emptiness (Ro 8:19-21) - Proper balance of life - Come to an understanding of the importance of obedience in our life - Seek godly wisdom so we can grow in our faith - Live an abundant life (Jn 10:10)	Human . . . - wisdom (2:14-16) - Effort (2:18-23) - Achievement (2:26) - Life (3:18-22) - Rivalry (4:4) - Selfish sacrifice (4:7-8) - Power (4:16) - Greed (5:10) - Accumulation (6:1-12) - Religion (8:10-14)	1-11 - 2 - vanity of vanities = the greatest vanity (futile, empty) - 3 - all that man does is fleeting - everything we do for the Lord is a lasting treasure - 4-7 - the earth/world - the continue in a cycle - 8-11 - there is nothing new under the sun 12-15 - 13 - man searches for understanding it is a grievous task - but God-given - The search for Godly wisdom is important but we still need to understand the world He put us in - 14 - Striving after the wind - 15 - in spite of man's efforts we can't fix what God wants to be 16-18 - I set my mind on knowing - his own attempts and power - empty - Grief comes, pain comes when our focus is on human achievement and earthly things

Ecclesiastes - Vanity of Vanities - The Greatest Vanity (Emptiness)

Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
1-11 - futility of pleasure - without purpose in our lives - we are empty (2) - Accumulating things doesn't bring us happiness (4-8) - I Kings 11:3 - He denied himself nothing (10) - Everything he had done and everything he had was vanity (9-11) - Mt 6:19-21 12-17 - Human wisdom leaves the wise and the fool with nothing at death - Godly knowledge brings the fear of the Lord (Pr 1:7) 18-23 - completely hates the fruits of his labor - Built a kingdom but who will take it over - He worried to the point of losing sleep 24-26 - realize that everything is God-given - apart from Him everything is worthless - He controls all things - Job 27:16-17; Pr 13:22	1-8 - appointed times - earthly pursuits are good in their proper place and time - God is a God of history - He leads and He directs - Our job is to follow and serve 9-10 - there is no profit in earthly pursuits in and of themselves 11 - God has set eternity in man's heart - Mt 6:20; Jn 6:27; II Cor 4:18; Col 3:12; He 12:1-2; I Jn 2:15-17 12-15 - supposed to do good and rejoice in our life - Everything is a gift from God - We should fear God 16-22 - there is an appointed time for judgment - Man and beast will die and return to dust (our bodies)	1-3 - there are those who have been so oppressed that it would have been better had they not been born - Evil activity is everywhere and it has disheartened them 4-6 - rivalry - when we are unsatisfied with what we have it makes what others have more appealing - The fool doesn't do anything - lives off of others - Tormented and never satisfied (Is 9:20; 44:20) 7-12 - futility of laboring alone without satisfaction - No heir to experience its value - Life is better when shared - A cord of 3 strands is not easily broken 13-16 - people are fickle and quickly turn on you	Approaching God with reverence (1-7) - 1 - draw near to listen (heed) rather than bring the sacrifice of fools - 2 - don't be hasty in word or impulsive in thought for God knows all and sees all - 4-5 - Promises to God have serious implications - Pay what you have vowed - Better not to vow than not to pay - 6-7 - fear God 8-9 - corruption of officials leads to oppression of the poor 10-20 - Folly of Riches - 10-12 - the love of money is never satisfied - When good things increase so do those who take them Earthly treasures bring disadvantage - Produces anxiety (12) - Brings pain (13) - Disappears through bad investments (14) - Everything is left at death (15-16) - Produces fear (17) 18-20 - those who look to God - fitting (appropriate) to enjoy with satisfaction the things that God has given - It is a gift from God - Receiving his reward, rejoice in his labor - When we recognize the goodness of God - we rejoice

Ecclesiastes - Vanity of Vanities - The Greatest Vanity (Emptiness)

Chapter 6	Chapter 7	Chapter 8

Ecclesiastes - Vanity of Vanities - The Greatest Vanity (Emptiness)

Chapter 9	Chapter 10	Chapter 11	Chapter 12