

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

Introduction	10 Vanities	Chapter 1
<p>The preacher - one who calls or gathers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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) 	<p>Human . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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) 	<p>1-11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>12-15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>16-18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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

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Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
<p>1-11 - futility of pleasure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>12-17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human wisdom leaves the wise and the fool with nothing at death - Godly knowledge brings the fear of the Lord (Pr 1:7) <p>18-23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - completely hates the fruits of his labor - Built a kingdom but who will take it over - He worried to the point of losing sleep <p>24-26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - realize that everything is God-given - apart from Him everything is worthless - He controls all things - Job 27:16-17; Pr 13:22 	<p>1-8 - appointed times</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 		