

ECCLESIASTES

LAST WORDS OF A WISE & WORLDLY KING

“Although wisdom is good in the beginning, it is better in the end.”
Irish Saying

1. He has made everything beautiful and appropriate

_____.

He has also _____
in the human heart. Ecclesiastes 3:11

2. There _____
for everything and a time for every delight and event
or purpose under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1; Ecclesiastes 3:2-8

3. When all has been heard, the end of the matter is:

a. _____

b. _____

for this applies to every person. Ecclesiastes 12:13

“I have seen slaves riding on horses and princes walking like slaves on the ground”
Ecclesiastes 10:7

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

1. In the small book of Ecclesiastes, “chasing the wind,” “it is all futility,” and “vanity of vanities” are phrases mentioned about 40 times. Can you relate to “chasing the wind” in any area of your life?

In Ecclesiastes 2:9-10, Solomon states, “Whatever my eyes looked at with desire I did not refuse them. I did not withhold from my heart any pleasure, for my heart was pleased because of all my labor. Then I considered all which my hands had done and I labored to do, and behold, all was vanity and chasing after the wind and there was no profit (nothing of lasting value) under the sun.” Can you relate to Solomon and not refusing what your eyes look at with desire? What is that and is it at all related to “chasing the wind?”

2. Do you struggle with defining yourself or your value by a season you have been in instead of truly owning the truth “He has made everything beautiful and appropriate in its time?” Are you currently in one of the seasons listed in Ecclesiastes 3:2-8? And which of those seasons are you in at this time? Is there a season that may have been a long or difficult one and it is hard for you to imagine or have hope for another season coming? Are you attached and defined by what the Lord declares over you or do you too easily label yourself by the label of this season?

3. King Solomon, at that time was the wisest and richest king to ever rule and had seen and experienced it all, states that it comes down to just two matters in the end. His wisdom is even greater as it is coming from a man who reached great highs and some significant lows in both of these:

1. Having reverence, awe, honor, respect and devotion to God.
2. Keeping His commandments

Do you have any testimony of your own that underlines these two parting truths of Solomon’s as he writes some of his last words?