

Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

- V. **Counsel for Living with Vanity. (7:1-12:8)**
- A. **Counsel in View of man's wickedness. (7:1-29)**
 - B. **Counsel in View of God's Inscrutable Providences. (8:1-9:18)**
 - C. **Counsel in View of the Uncertainties of Life. (10:1-20)**
 - D. **Counsel in View of the Aging Processes of Life (11:1-12:8)**
 - 1. **Live Wisely. 11:1-5**
 - 1 Cast your bread on the surface of the waters, for you will find it after many days.
 - 2 Divide your portion to seven, or even to eight, for you do not know what misfortune may occur on the earth.
 - 3 If the clouds are full, they pour out rain upon the earth; and whether a tree falls toward the south or toward the north, wherever the tree falls, there it lies.
 - 4 He who watches the wind will not sow and he who looks at the clouds will not reap.
 - 5 Just as you do not know the path of the wind and how bones are formed in the womb of the pregnant woman, so you do not know the activity of God who makes all things.

Summary:

- 1. **Live wisely with your _____.**
 - 2. **Live wisely with that _____ to you.**
 - 3. **Live wisely with simple _____.**
 - 4. **Live wisely through your _____.**
 - 5. **Live wisely through realized _____.**
2. **Work Wisely. 11:6**
- 6 Sow your seed in the morning and do not be idle in the evening, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.

Summary:

- 1. **The "six days you shall work" command is explained to mean _____ days, not just 8-5.**
- 2. **This sounds a lot like, "_____ the time." Eph 5:15-16**
- 3. **While our physical labor may not be all day, our _____ labor should be.**

3. **Rejoice Wisely. 11:7-8**

7 The light is pleasant, and it is good for the eyes to see the sun.
8 Indeed, if a man should live many years, let him rejoice in them all (**years**), and let him remember the days of darkness, for they (**days of darkness**) will be many. Everything that is to come will be futility.

Summary:

1. A simple fact is that it is good that we see the _____ every day.
2. In the context of good vs evil, we need to _____ that some days were evil in our life.

4. Age Wisely. 11:9-10

9 Rejoice, young man, during your childhood, and let your heart be pleasant during the days of young manhood. And follow the impulses of your heart and the desires of your eyes. Yet know that God will bring you to judgment for all these things.

10 So, remove grief and anger from your heart and put away pain from your body, because childhood and the prime of life are fleeting.

Summary:

1. The old wise man tells the young man to follow his heart, but not to live _____.
2. He also advises that it is wise to remove bitterness and anger and to overlook the pain so that you don't _____ life.

Ecclesiastes 12:1-13

5. Remember Your Creator. 12:1-8

1 Remember (**Qal Imp ZAKAR = 231x**; also your Creator (**Qal Ptc MPI BARA' = your Creator**) in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight (**CHEPHETZ = 39x**) in them";
2 before the sun and the light, the moon and the stars are darkened, and clouds return after the rain;
3 in the day that the watchmen of the house tremble, and mighty men stoop, the grinding ones stand idle because they are few, and those who look through windows grow dim;
4 and the doors on the street are shut as the sound of the grinding mill is low, and one will arise at the sound of the bird, and all the daughters of song will sing softly.

Summary:

1. Young people need to remember their _____.
2. This is the purpose of the _____ Day. Exo 20:8-11

3. If this is _____ done, the times of questioning Him might be shorter.
4. One day the day of _____ will come. Matt 24:29-31

5 Furthermore, men are afraid of a high place and of terrors on the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags himself along, and the caperberry is ineffective. For man goes to his eternal home while mourners go about in the street.

6 Remember Him before the silver cord is broken and the golden bowl is crushed, the pitcher by the well is shattered and the wheel at the cistern is crushed;
7 then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit (**RUACH = 378x**) will return to (**the**) God who gave it.

8 "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher, "all is vanity!"

Summary:

1. Why fear the _____ of this earth?
2. When you die your spirit goes to its _____ home, before the mourners are finished.
3. The imagery in verse six is to the end of life and once ended the body is no longer _____.
4. Remember the Lord _____ you die.
5. For without Him, all is _____.
6. This verse teaches that the human spirit returns to its place of _____, The God.

I. Futility. 1:1-2:26

II. God's Immutable Plan for Life (3:1-22)

III. The Futility of the Circumstances of Life (4:1-5:20)

IV. The Futility of Life as a Whole. (6:1-12)

V. Counsel for Living with Vanity. (7:1-12:8)

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VI. Conclusion. (12:9-14)

A. The Preacher's Desires. 12:9-10

9 In addition to being a wise man, the Preacher (**QOHELET**) also taught the people knowledge; and he pondered (**AZAN = 42x; to give ear to**) searched out and arranged many proverbs.

10 The Preacher sought to find delightful words and to write words of truth correctly.

Summary:

1. A truly wise man will seek to _____ the wisdom he has been given.
2. Included in that wisdom is the _____ knowledge with which to make wise decisions.
3. The wise man spends a lot of time in _____ thought and sequencing of words.

4. The wise man wants the words he speaks to be _____ to learn and _____.
5. He who has an ear, let him _____, what the Spirit says to the churches.

B. The Preacher's Encouragement. 12:11-12

- 11 The words of wise men are like goads (**DORBOWN = 2x; 1 Sam 13:21; a goad; cf Acts 26:14**), and masters of these collections are like well-driven nails; they are given by one Shepherd.
- 12 But beyond this, my son, be warned: the writing of many books is endless, and excessive devotion to books is wearying to the body.

Summary:

1. Wisdom has a tendency to _____ and stick to you.
2. The proverbs inspired through Solomon have a divine _____ behind them.
3. Scriptural proverbs are _____ by The Shepherd to keep us in line.
4. The wise man give a warning to _____ study without learning about life itself. Cf 1 Cor 8:1

C. The Preacher's Bottom Line. 12:13-14

- 13 The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.
- 14 For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

Summary:

1. The Preacher's objective is to _____ communicate the truth.
2. The words of truth _____.
3. Those who master them are _____ to hold the structure firmly together.
4. All communicators must realize that the _____ of truth is from the One Shepherd. John 8:31-32
5. The conclusion: _____ and _____ God.
6. The reason: all will be _____.
7. Thus the importance of knowing God's _____ word. Heb 4:12