



THE WISDOM OF ECCLESIASTES

06.05.16 | WHAT'S THE POINT? | ECCLESIASTES 1

1. THE SEARCH FOR MEANING:

People are trying to understand the world in a way that can give them meaning and wholeness.

Looking around we see that people are desperate for hope.

2. LIFE LESSONS UNDER THE SUN

Life by itself is empty.

Ecclesiastes 1:2

Genesis 3:19

Life mocks those who seek its meaning.

Ecclesiastes 1:3-4

Life does not applaud you. It keeps going.

Ecclesiastes 1:5-7

Life is difficult.

Ecclesiastes 1:8-11

Intellectualism doesn't satisfy.

Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

FURTHER STUDY

Read Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 prior to answering these questions.

1. In Ecclesiastes 1:4-7 Solomon compares nature to a machine. What impact should that have on us as we live our life out under the sun? What difference should it make in the way we view life as a whole and our relationship to the material world?

2. Mankind will typically try to increase the speed and the noise of life when unable to figure out its meaning. What are ways that you tend to do just that when struggling with life's meaning?

3. Is there a danger in our culture as we place so much emphasis on entertainment and spend so little time trying to understand the meaning of our existence? How does that affect you personally?

4. When we realize that true meaning must come from an outside source (namely God) what difference should that make in the way we live our daily lives? How does it impact the way you see yourself?

5. Read Acts 17:22-28. How do those verses answer the reason (s) for our existence? How would you communicate the truths in that text to someone asking for the "meaning of life?"

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