



THE WISDOM OF ECCLESIASTES

07.03.16 | FEAR GOD | ECCLESIASTES 5

1. A HEALTHY FEAR OF GOD

Ecclesiastes 5:1

Pursue that which draws you near to Jesus Christ.

Put away anything that dulls your hunger for Jesus Christ.

Place yourself under the authority of God's Word.

Ecclesiastes 5:2-3

Keep your prayers simple and honest.

Ecclesiastes 5:4-7

Follow the leading of God's Holy Spirit.

God's highest desire for you is your pursuit of Him.

Ecclesiastes 5:8

God has the final say.

2. FEARING GOD AND WEALTH

Ecclesiastes 5:10-12

Wealth does not satisfy.

Ecclesiastes 5:13-17

Wealth weakens and even mocks you.

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20

Wealth is given as a means to do good and enjoy life.

FURTHER STUDY

1. What is the heart attitude with which you typically approach God in worship on Sunday mornings? In private prayer?

2. According to Ecclesiastes 5:1, James 4:8 and I Samuel 15:22, what preparations could you make to ensure your heart attitude toward God is right before you approach Him?

3. Read Luke 18:9-14. How does this parable show the value of simple and honest prayers being what God desires? (Eccl. 5:2-3) What do simple and honest prayers reveal about the heart of the person praying?

4. It is sometimes easy to rashly promise things to God in exchange for the answer to our prayers (Eccl. 5:4-7). God's desire, though, is for us to pursue Him first, then allow the Holy Spirit to direct us and help us trust Him for everything else. Read the following verses and restate them in your own words.

Matthew 6:33 Romans 8:26-27 Philippians 3:8-9 I Peter 1:3-4

5. Too often people put their faith in what is seen and tangible – their wealth. But wealth is temporary and does not satisfy (Eccl. 5:10-12). Can you think of a time when your trust in your wealth disappointed you?

6. Jesus addressed wealth numerous times. Read Matthew 6:19-21 and Luke 12:15-21, 33, 16:10-13. What do these verses say about wealth and its purpose?

7. In light of Ecclesiastes 5:18-20, how does understanding that God is the Giver of our money help us to enjoy it and steward it better? What practical steps do you need to take to readjust your attitudes in this area?

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