STRUGGLING WITH EVIL!

Ecclesiastes 8:8 There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.

Ecclesiastes 8:9 All this have I seen, and applied my heart unto every work that is done under the sun: there is a time wherein one man ruleth over another to his own hurt.

Ecclesiastes 8:10 And so I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of the holy, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done: this is also vanity.

PW1 Pastor Warren, 7/5/2025

Ecclesiastes 8:12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:

Ecclesiastes 8:13 But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

Solomon has taken a long, hard look & researched evil...mentioning it in every verse in some way.

1. There is evil!

Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

Hear it | feel it | taste it | smell it | know it!

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•2. Evil of many kinds &/ in many forms!

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3. Evil that (often) goes unpunished!

Solomon is <u>not</u> rooting evil in Adam and original sin **as** does the rest of the Bible. His focus is much more in your face....

Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, <u>for</u> that all have sinned:

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

- Solomon is just observing / analyzing, scrutinizing evil...
- Evil: we look around...is anyone getting whacked???
- Punished = (no) bad consequences
- <u>Galatians 6:7</u> Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

4. Evil that can <u>therefore</u> be **quite** attractive!

I have heard all the dumb joke: fundamentalist

- >No fun
- >Too much damn
- **Not** much mental

<u>Proverbs 5:1</u> My son, attend unto my wisdom, And bow thine ear to my understanding:

Proverbs 5:2 That thou mayest regard discretion, And that thy lips may keep knowledge.

Proverbs 5:3 For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, And her mouth is smoother than oil:

Proverbs 5:4 But her end is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a twoedged sword.

Proverbs 5:5 Her feet go down to death; Her steps take hold on hell.

- <u>Proverbs 23:29</u> Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes?
- <u>Proverbs 23:30</u> They that tarry long at the wine; They that go to seek mixed wine.
- <u>Proverbs 23:31</u> **Look not** thou upon the wine when it is red, When it giveth his colour in the cup, When it moveth itself aright.
- Proverbs 23:32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, And stingeth like an adder.

- Proverbs 23:33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, And thine heart shall utter perverse things.
- <u>Proverbs 23:34</u> Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, Or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.
- Proverbs 23:35 They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; They have beaten me, and I felt it not: When shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

3 examples:

Alton River Boat

June 13th 1975

Uncle Bob

Ecclesiastes 8:12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, **yet surely I know** that it shall be well with **them that fear God**, which fear **before him**:

Ecclesiastes 8:13 But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; **because** he feareth <u>not</u> before God.

5. Evil that **can only be banished** by a personal relationship with God!

Ecclesiastes 8:12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, **yet surely I know** that it shall be well with **them that fear God**, which fear **before him:** Ecclesiastes 8:13 But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; **because** he feareth <u>not</u> before God.

Ecclesiastes 3:14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.

Ecclesiastes 5:7 For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: **but fear thou God.**

Ecclesiastes 7:18 It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God**, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Coram Deo:

In His presence Under His authority Before His gaze For His glory