LIFE AFTER SERIOUS RESEARCH! ECC. 8:14-17

Ecclesiastes 8:14 There is a **Vanity** which is done upon the earth; that there be just men, unto whom it happeneth according to the work of the wicked; again, there be wicked men, to whom it happeneth according to the work of the righteous: I said that this also is **Vanity**.

Ecclesiastes 8:15 Then I commended **mirth**, because a man hath **no better thing** under the sun, than <u>to eat</u>, and <u>to drink</u>, and <u>to be merry</u>: **for** that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 8:16 When I applied mine heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the earth: (for also there is that neither day nor night seeth sleep with his eyes:)

Ecclesiastes 8:17 Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labour to seek it out, yet he shall not find it; yea further; though a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it.

Solomon's discoveries:

Ecclesiastes 8:14 There is a **Vanity** which is done upon the earth; that there be just men, unto whom it happeneth according to the work of the wicked; again, there be wicked men, to whom it happeneth according to the work of the righteous: I said that this also is **Vanity**.

1. Life might be **unfair** | might <u>not</u> be fair!

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Reflections:

- > Life, in general, has been fair to me
- > Actually, more than fair to me!
- ➤ But <u>not</u> always!
- > And <u>not</u> always for **all** people

 \triangleright This is **Vanity**! (14a, & 14d – so in the beginning & the end)

"Life wouldn't be so hard <u>if</u> we didn't think it was gong to be so easy!"

"Life wouldn't be so unfair <u>if</u> we didn't think it was going to be so fair!"

> And besides, who want life to be absolutely fair???

Romans 4:1 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? Romans 4:2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but **not** before God.

Romans 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Romans 4:4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

Romans 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that **not** of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **Ephesians 2:9 Not** of works, lest any man should boast.

Ecclesiastes 8:16 When I applied mine heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the earth: (for also there is that neither day nor night seeth sleep with his eyes:)

Ecclesiastes 8:17 Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labour to seek it out, yet he shall not find it; yea further; though a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it.

2. Life might not be understandable!

Ecclesiastes 8:16 When I applied mine heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the earth: (for also there is that neither day nor night seeth sleep with his eyes:)

Ecclesiastes 8:17 Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because inough a man labour to seek it out, yet he shall not find it; yea further; inough a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

Ecclesiastes 7:14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him.

Ecclesiastes 7:23 All this have I proved by wisdom: I said, I will be wise; but it was far from me.

Ecclesiastes 7:24 That which is far off, and exceeding deep, who can find it out?

Ecclesiastes 11:5 As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: **even so** thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all.

Proverbs 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: But the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

Ecclesiastes 8:15 Then I commended **Mirth**, because a man hath **no better thing** under the sun, than <u>to eat</u>, and <u>to drink</u>, and <u>to be merry</u>: **for** that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun.

3. Life **should be** enjoyed!

Ecclesiastes 8:15 Then I commended **Mirth**, because a man hath **no better thing** under the sun, than <u>to eat</u>, and <u>to drink</u>, and <u>to be merry</u>: **for** that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 2:24 There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.

Ecclesiastes 3:12 I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life. Ecclesiastes 3:13 And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.

Ecclesiastes 3:22 Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?

Ecclesiastes 5:18 Behold that which I have seen: it is good and comely for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour that he taketh under the sun all the days of his life, which God giveth him: for it is his portion.

Ecclesiastes 5:19 Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God. Ecclesiastes 5:20 For he shall not much remember the days of his life; because God answereth him in the joy of his heart.

Ecclesiastes 9:7 Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works. Ecclesiastes 9:8 Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment. Ecclesiastes 9:9 Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun.

Thoughts:

- **≻**To enjoy
- **➤**To find joy
- ➤In what God gives us!
- \triangleright Under the sun (2x) | upon the earth (1x)

- **►**In the normal stuff
- **►**In the small stuff
- **≻**Today

Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.