

OUTLINE OF ECCLESIASTES

Central text: Eccle. 1:2

Golden text: Eccle. 12:11

I. Introduction to the futility of nature- 1:1-11

- A. The generations
- B. The sun
- C. The wind
- D. The waters
- E. Man's greed
- F. Nothing new
- G. No one remembers.

II. The Preacher's task- 1:12-2:11

- A. The task itself is vanity.
- B. Pleasure is vanity.
- C. Building is vanity.
- D. Treasures are vanity.

III. The Preacher's observations- 2:12-12:8

- A. "Life is futile"- 2:12-26
- B. "Everything is in God's time"- 3:1-15
- C. "All die, then the Judgment"- 3:16-22
- D. "Greed is for fools"- 4:1-5:20
- E. "Wisdom is better than greed"- 6:1-7:14
- F. "Wise righteousness works"- 7:15-8:15
- G. "Enjoy life"- 8:16-9:10
- H. "The value of wisdom"- 9:11-12:8

IV. The purpose for wisdom- 12:9-14

- A. The Preacher's teaching
- B. The Judgment Day

Highlights of Ecclesiastes

I. Christ foreshadowed

- A. The Wisdom that gives life meaning- I Cor. 1:30
- B. The wise, poor man- Isa. 53:2, 3
- C. The Shepherd who guides with wisdom- I Pet. 2:25; 5:4

II. New Testament reference- II Cor. 5:10

III. Practical application

- A. Death makes everything under the sun meaningless.
- B. God's wisdom in view of the judgment day is the only thing that gives this life meaning.