

Ecclesiastes

Teacher: Ruth Christian

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Lesson 2 - Chapter 1:4-11

Remember, before you begin, pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal truth and wisdom; and help you apply that truth to your life.

Review:

The thesis of the Preacher (one who calls an assembly) is that life lived without regard for God and eternity (the under the sun perspective) is vanity. This means our labor (human accomplishments and attainments) are worthless.

Reflect:

- 1. *Read slowly verses 4-7.* As a scientist, examining the "wheel of nature", what does Solomon conclude?
- 2. Again, *read slowly verses 8-11*. As a historian who looks at life, generation after generation, what does the Preacher conclude in verses 9 and 11?

A.

B.

3. Why is it important to be aware of Solomon's "human perspective" or "under the sun perspective" when reading Ecclesiastes? How is this different from reading Proverbs, a book Solomon also wrote? *Read Proverbs* 1:1-7; 3:1-26 to help you answer that question.

Respond:

- 1. In what ways is it true that nothing changes in human society from generation to generation?
- 2. Solomon states that there is nothing new under the sun; but thankfully for followers of Jesus Christ, life is filled with new things. According to the following verses, what are some of those things? Are these things evident in your life?

1 Cor. 5:7

Eph. 4:24

2 Cor. 5:17

3. Do you agree with Solomon's conclusion in verse 11? *Write out Mal. 3:16.* What is your reaction to this verse?