

The Futility of Life without God
Ecclesiastes 1 and 2

Intro:

Chapter 1

v. 1 Why Solomon?

v. 2 "Vanity of vanities" i.e. the vanity of human life

v. 3 Vanity means "of no profit"

v. 5-7 Solomon explains "vanity"

sun

wind

rain

The gears grind on

v. 8 Impersonal nature does not stop to award you.

But man does not learn from this but rather continues to
look for meaning.

v. 9 But he won't find it

v. 10 There is nothing "new" that can give meaning.

v. 11 But man will not learn from history. He is doomed to repeat it.

He forgets past

present

and future failures

v. 13 Solomon substantiates: The Big Three

1. Intellectualism

v. 14 Solomon observes that intellectualism is grasping wind

v. 15 Because human life is flawed

and lacking answers

v. 16-17 and tho he learned both good and evil...

v. 18 ...he could not change anything

Chapter 2

v. 1-3

2. Next, hedonism

v. 4-8

3. Then, materialism

"myself" is mentioned 6 times

v. 9 "I evaluated materialism"

v. 10 "I enjoyed creating something"

v. 11 But it all ended up vanity

v. 12 Solomon's final considerations

v. 13 "Its best to be wise, to know good and evil."

v. 14 ☉ "Because its safer"

☉ but all will die in the end

v. 15 ☉ "...fools and righteous alike"

"I was righteous for nothing"

v. 16 Ⓞ “It’s like I never lived”

v. 17-20 Ⓞ I hated life

I hated all that I had done

I completely despaired

v. 21-23 Ⓞ Life is “a great evil!”

God put Solomon in a time machine that projected him to the end of human existence. “I’ve been there and there’s nothing there.”

v. 24-25 Ⓞ Man cannot live meaningfully and joyfully without God.

v. 26 Ⓞ God must **bestow** His knowledge

as man can’t reason to God

there must be a Bible

Ⓞ He bestows His knowledge on those of His good pleasure

Ⓞ Those He does not choose?

They are “sinners” who do not want salvation

They collect for others with whom God is pleased

“God is sovereign!”