



# Ecclesiastes

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## Lesson 12 Study Notes – Ecclesiastes 5:8-20

### Pray

### Reflect

1. Today we study the remainder of chapter 5. *Read Eccl 5: 8-20.* What does Solomon deal with again? Then he moves on to deal with what?
2. According to **verses 8-9**, should we be surprised with the oppression of the poor and injustice that went with it?
3. According to **verse 10**, what did Solomon know was also vanity?
4. Why is it that the sleep of the laboring man is sweet; but the abundance of the rich keeps him from sleep?
5. *Reread verses 13-17.* What does Solomon determine about wealth in these verses? What two type of rich men does he have in mind?
6. What was Job's attitude when he lost his family except his wife, lost his servants and lost all his possessions (**Job 1: 21-22**)?
7. What does Paul state in 1 Tim. 6: 7-8?
8. Solomon was not advocating for riches or poverty, because they both have their problems. What did Solomon write in **Proverbs 30: 7-9**? Do you think this a wise heart attitude to acknowledge to the Lord?
9. The Preacher has warned against the love of money and the delusions that wealth can bring. In the closing verses of this chapter (**18-20**), what does Solomon affirm once again?

10. It is good and fitting to labor faithfully, enjoy the good things of life, and accept it all as the gracious gift of God. Go back and review Solomon's wise counsel in **2:24, 3:12-13, and 3:22**. And it is important to note at this time, that he will repeat this counsel 3 more times.

11. The meaning of **verse 20** is not clear. What are the two possibilities for meaning given in the bible study?

## Response

1. In a nutshell, Solomon knows wealth does not satisfy, wealth brings difficulties to life, even though it is a gift of God. In light of this, how should we respond?

2. A good view of how we should deal with wealth, money, possessions... with God and eternity in the picture, Paul gives us in **1 Tim. 6: 17-19**. Write these verses out. Even if you are not "rich", how do they apply to your life?