

Reality Check: A study of Ecclesiastes

A young man's book? A book for cynical middle-agers too!
An honest appraisal of the meaninglessness of living life "under the sun"
without the reference point of God's revelation.

January

6th **Everything goes round in circles** - Introduction – The Preacher knows better
– or does he? Ecclesiastes 1:1-12

13th **I can't get no satisfaction** Ecclesiastes 1:13-2:26: Am I looking in all the
wrong places? Wisdom, Pleasures, Folly, Toil?

20th **Turn Turn Turn** : The Tyranny of Time! Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

27th **Rat Race Road Rage**: The Harshness of Life! Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:16

February

3rd **Pious talk**: Standing in Awe of God! Religion falls short. Ecclesiastes 5:1- 7

10th **Bitter Disappointments**: Two cases of misfortune. Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:22

17th **Facing the Facts**: Wisdom's limits – man's sin. Ecclesiastes 7:1-22

24th **Frustrations** :Seeking, but not finding/ Living with kings Ecclesiastes 7:15-9:1

March

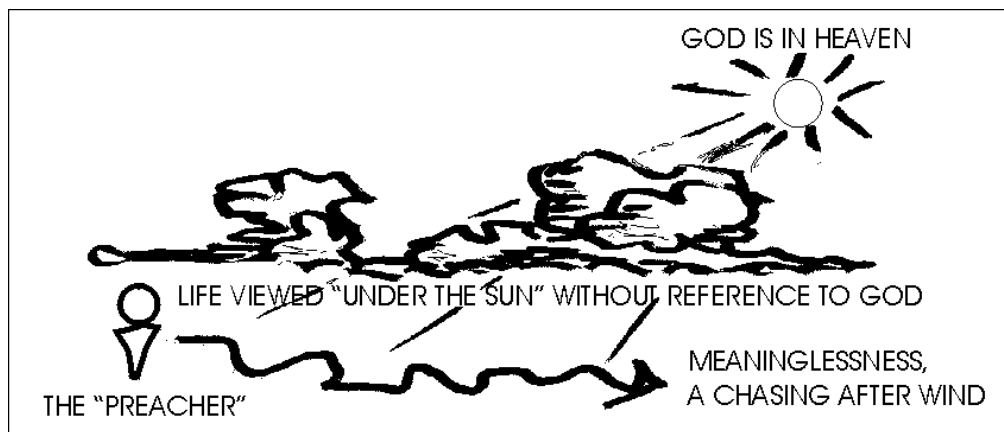
3rd **Jeopardy** – Seizing the Day – as God intends Ecclesiastes 9:2-9:18

10th **Living Sensibly** while under the sun Ecclesiastes 9:13-10:20

17th **Keeping the Creator in view** Ecclesiastes 11:1-12:7
Henry Krabbendam (guest)

24th **In Conclusion, when all has been heard** Ecclesiastes 12:8-14

31st – Easter (No Class)



Bibliography of sources on Ecclesiastes:

Published Sources:

The Way of Solomon : Finding Joy and Contentment in the Wisdom of Ecclesiastes

by Rami M. Shapiro - Hardcover - 160 pages (March 2000)
Harper San Francisco; ISBN: 0060673001

Is This All There Is to Life? : Answers from Ecclesiastes

by Ray C. Stedman - Hardcover - 192 pages (January 2000)
Discovery Enterprises; ISBN: 1572930586
Available Online in html, pdf and audio formats (below)

Message of Ecclesiastes (Bible Speaks Today)

by Derek Kidner - Paperback Reprint edition (January 1988)
Intervarsity Press; ISBN: 0877842868

The Book of Ecclesiastes (New International Commentary on the Old Testament)

by Tremper Longman - Hardcover - 320 pages (January 1998)
Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.; ISBN: 0802823661

The Wisdom of Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes : An Introduction to Wisdom Literature

by Derek Kidner - Paperback - 175 pages (November 1985)
Intervarsity Press; ISBN: 0877844054

Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon: A Self Study Guide

by Irving L. Jensen - Paperback (July 1987)
Moody Press; ISBN: 0802410219 (Out of Print)

Online Resources:

Links Sites:

World Wide Study Bible: Ecclesiastes

Old Testament Gateway: Ecclesiastes

The Text This Week: Ecclesiastes

Online Materials:

Ecclesiastes: The Inspired Book of Error by Ray C. Stedman

Is This All There Is to Life? : Answers from Ecclesiastes by Ray C. Stedman

The Theology of Ecclesiastes by M. James Sawyer, Ph.D.

The Burden of God: Studies in Wisdom and Civilization from the Book of Ecclesiastes by Michael Kelley (Online book)

Introduction, Outline & Bibliography by David Malick (www.bible.org)

Qoheleth and Job: Diverse Responses to the Enigma of Evil by Rosemary Dewey