

Enjoying life when others don't

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2:26

- I. Everything in life is meaningless in itself (Ecclesiastes 1:1-2:23).
 - A. Introduction: Solomon mourned how empty everything in life can be (1:1-3).
 - B. Our lives are repetitive and brief (1:4-11).
 - C. Education and knowledge are empty because we just realize more how sad life can be (1:12-18).
 - D. Pleasure is empty in itself (2:1-11).
 - E. Wisdom is empty because both wise and foolish die and are forgotten (2:12-16).
 - F. Success is empty because eventually you leave everything to others (2:17-23).
- II. Everything in life becomes meaningful when we enjoy it from God, with God and for God (2:24-26).
 - A. Do life with God – We can experience joy when we acknowledge everything in life is a gift from God (2:24-25).
 - B. Live to please God – Those who live to please God have authentic joy while unbelievers just have frustration (2:26b).