

Ecclesiastes: An Introduction
May 5, 2019 – Pastor Nick Neves

These are the words of the '_____'. In Hebrew, the title is pronounced ko-heh'-leth and literally means 'A collector of sentences.'

Why is it significant that King Solomon is the author of this book?

Is Ecclesiastes a gloomy, skeptical commentary on the bleakness of human existence?

*Ecclesiastes is only a hopeless and meaningless book IF the _____ that is exposed as vapor and vanity throughout its pages is the very place that you are looking to find your fulfillment.

Here are some of the ways that man seeks to answer the great questions of life apart from God:

- Is fulfillment to be found in riches and _____?
- Is fulfillment to be found in _____?
- Is fulfillment to be found in leaving a strong _____?
- Is fulfillment to be found in hard work and _____?
- Is fulfillment to be found in gaining more _____?

Solomon knows that the heart of man is stubborn, and often insists on _____ a thing instead of taking someone's word for it. In Ecclesiastes, he takes that frustrating journey on our behalf, putting these godless theories of fulfillment to the test so that, hopefully, we won't have to.

Did Solomon actually LIVE all of these things he speaks about in the book of Ecclesiastes?

*He COULD have, and that's what is important here. Of all the people in the world, no one had the wisdom, resources, and power to test the worldly theories of satisfaction than Solomon did.

The preacher's journey is set in front of us as an example to _____ from, but not to _____.

"When you are bowed down beneath a heavy burden of sorrow, then take to worshipping the Lord, and especially to that kind of worshipping which lies in adoring God, and in making a full surrender of yourself to the divine will."

- C.H. Spurgeon