

The Words of the Preacher: ECCLESIASTES

Life Under the Sun

Toil's Trouble

Ecclesiastes 2:18-26

PASTOR'S PRAYER

Almighty God, Maker of heaven and earth. You created and made all things by your eternal power, wisdom and goodness that all creation may recognize and revel in your manifest glory. You not only created all things in past but you continue to work and sustain and maintain all your creation every moment. We confess our sin this morning LORD & acknowledge that it is our sin that causes our work, our callings and vocations to be such a struggle. These things are hard. Our work and callings often bring frustration and sorrow instead of joy and good. Holy Spirit, fix our eyes on Jesus this morning & His kingdom. For only Christ upholds the universe by the word of His power. And only through faith in Christ will we know that joy and hope of your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen & Amen

OUTLINE

1. The Trouble with our Toil (vv. 18-23)
 - A. The Trouble with Toil (vv. 18-19)
 - B. The Despair from Toil (vv. 20-21)
 - C. The Burden of Toil (vv. 22-23)
2. The Good of our Toil (vv. 24-26)
 - A. Our Work is from God (v. 24)
 - B. Our Work is from God for our Enjoyment (v. 25)
 - C. Our Work is from God for our Enjoyment & for His Kingdom (v. 26)

Central Textual Truth

The Preacher proves toil is unable to remove vanity.

Central Sermon Aim

I want SGBC to fix our hope on Christ & His kingdom instead of our work.