

The Conclusion of the Whole Matter **Ecclesiastes 12:9-14**

Main Point:

As you live in this fallen world, hear and heed the message of Ecclesiastes.

1. Ecclesiastes is a book of wisdom that guides you in this fallen world.

2. Ecclesiastes is a book of wisdom that goads you and stabilizes you.

3. Ecclesiastes is a book of a wisdom that directs you to what is most important.

4. Ecclesiastes is a book of wisdom that comes from Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd.

Matthew 20:17-18 17 Now Jesus, going up to Jerusalem, took the twelve disciples aside on the road and said to them, 18 “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, (NKJV)

1 Kings 4:29-31 29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. 30 Thus Solomon’s wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 For he was wiser than all men ... (NKJV)

Tom Wolfe “[Ecclesiastes is] the highest flower of poetry, eloquence, and truth ... the greatest single piece of writing I have known.”

Philip Ryken “The author of Ecclesiastes wrote with clarity, artistry, and integrity. Thus his book instructs our minds, touches our hearts, and guides us in the wisdom of God.”

Philip Ryken “Ecclesiastes does the same thing for people of faith. Although its words may be pleasing, they also inflict a certain amount of pain. They are goads to the conscience, making us uncomfortable enough to turn away from sin. They are a stimulus to the soul, steering us back onto the right spiritual path.”

John 14:15 15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. (NKJV)

Sidney Greidanus “It’s not just our duty, it’s our essence. God created us to stand in awe of him and keep his commandments. That’s God’s design for us.”

Ezekiel 34:23 23 I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them—My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd. (NKJV)

John 10:11 11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (NKJV)

Philip Ryken “The Preacher’s words are not merely the musings of some skeptical philosopher; they are part of the inspired, infallible, and inerrant revelation of God Almighty. Therefore, it is not enough merely to admire their artistry and respect their integrity - we must also submit to their authority.”