

# ***The Words of the Preacher: ECCLESIASTES***

## ***Life Under the Sun***

### ***Vanity of Earthly Authorities***

#### ***Ecclesiastes 8:1-9***

#### **PASTOR'S PRAYER**

Almighty God, King & Father. All authority in heaven & earth is yours for you are our Maker & our Sustain. You reign and rule supreme. All glory, honor & praise is yours. Blessed by your name. Father we confess our hearts are so given to rebellion and independence. We naturally recoil at submission and service. Only by faith in Christ & the empowering of your Spirit are we able to love, serve and bow before you & those you have placed over us. Grant faith to trust your divine and good authority over us and repentance when we seek to push away from it. May our hearts humbly turn now to place ourselves under the authority of your Word and the working of your Spirit for your name's sake and that your kingdom may come & your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen & Amen

#### **OUTLINE**

##### **4 Principles for Living Wisely with Earthly Authorities**

- 1. The Scarcity of Wisdom (v. 1)**
- 2. The Necessity of Wisdom (vv. 2-3)**
- 3. The Responsibility for Wisdom (vv. 4-6)**
- 4. The Frailty of Wisdom (vv. 7-9)**

#### ***Central Textual Truth***

*The Preacher calls Israel to live faithfully under the vanity of earthly authorities.*

#### ***Central Sermon Aim***

*I want SGBC to submit to Christ our King and final authority.*