## *"The Emptiness of Pleasure & Treasure"*
### Ecclesiastes 2:1-11
Pastor Steve Cavallaro

## I. How does Solomon experiment on himself? *(vv. 1-3, 8-11)*

*"I said in my heart, "I will taste you with pleasure.""*

Laughter

Alcohol: *"Cheer my body with wine"*

Music:

Sex: *"many concubines"*

*"whatever my eyes desires, I did not keep from them."*

*"a vanity and a striving after wind."*

*"Nothing to be gained under the sun"*

**Pleasure's _____ & can't fill the emptiness of _____.**

> **Numbers 15:39**
> **1 Kings 4:3**
> **Psalms 104:14**
> **1 John 2:16-17**

*"By wisdom he tests his theory and weathers the truth of it."*     -Zack Eswine

*"Fill your belly. Day and night make merry. Let days be full of joy. Dance and make music day and night.... These things alone are the concern of men."*
    *-Epic of Gilgamesh* (Babylonian)

*"Our desires are never satisfied; we go from one well to another seeking water to quench our thirst. But the wells of the pleasure-seekers are empty."*
    -Sinclair Ferguson

**II.   What was Solomon's other experiment on himself?** *(vv. 4-8, 11)*

> *"I made great works. I built houses"*
> *"Male and female slaves"*
> *"great possessions of herds and flocks"*
> *"gathered for myself silver and gold"*

**Treasure can't _____ the _____ of life.**

> **1 Kings 4:22-23**
> **1 Timothy 6:10**

*"Everything in time will shatter. Ultimately, all human accomplishment passes,
 and there is no profit under the sun."*        -Benjamin Shaw

*"Purely earthly values have a queer tendency to let one down and thoroughly
 disappoint one."*        -H.C. Leupold

**III.   Are we to give up on pleasures & treasures?**

**Jesus fills our empty _____ as our pleasure & treasure.**

> **Psalms 16:5, 11; 37:4; 142:5**
> **Matthew 4:8-9**
> **Hebrews 4:15**

**Going Deeper:**

1. Which pleasures of life do you struggle to keep in their place?
2. Which treasures of life do you struggle to keep in their place?
3. How do pleasures and treasure interact in your heart and affect your hopes?
4. What about Jesus delights you? How do you display it?
5. What about Jesus do you value/treasure? How does that loosen the grip of earthly treasure?