

“NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN”

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. Who wrote this book of wisdom we find in Scripture? (vv. 1)

“The words of the Preacher”

Qoheleth → Ecclesiastes → Preacher/Teacher

2 Timothy 3 (breathed by God) → 1 Peter 1 (Spirit of Christ in prophets)

“the son of David, king in Jerusalem”

God’s Word sometimes comes through strange messengers.

2 Timothy 3:16

1 Peter 1:10-11

“In effect, Solomon speaks as Christ to the people of God of the Old Testament.

So what we hear in the book is the voice of Christ.”

-Benjamin Shaw

II. What is the message of this unlikely messenger? (vv. 2-11)

“Vanity of vanities... vanity of vanities! All is vanity.”

“What does a man gain by ... he toils under the sun?”

“but the earth remains forever.”

“All things are full of weariness; a man can’t utter it”

“There is nothing new under the sun”

Under the sun life is experienced as futile toil.

Genesis 1:28

Proverbs 21:6

Jeremiah 10:3,15

2 Peter 3:4

SERMON NOTES

1/2/2022

"Life ... is elusive, ephemeral, and enigmatic."

-Philip Ryken

"What is more vain than this vanity: that the earth, which was made for humans, stays- but humans themselves, the lords of the earth, suddenly dissolve into the dust?"

-Jerome

"History never repeats, I tell myself before I go to sleep."

-Split Enz

"Those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it."

-Winston Churchill

III. Is there another way to view life?

Curse (covenant of works) → Covenant of Preservation (Noah)

Futility of history → New heavens & New earth

The Son of God helps us to see God has purpose even in toil.

Genesis 8:22

Psalms 19:4-5

Romans 8:20-21

Revelation 21-22

"But in order to know and enjoy God properly, we first have to see the emptiness of life without him, becoming thoroughly disillusioned with everything the world has to offer."

-Philip Ryken

BIG IDEA:

Be honest about life under the sun but turn back to life under the Son.

Digging Deeper:

1. How does Solomon reveal the futility of life?
2. How do you see the futility of creation in your life?
3. What is the difference between life under the sun and life under the Son?
4. When do you tend to view life under the sun?
5. How can you begin to view life under the Son more consistently?