

“IGNORANCE IS BLISS?”

Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. How did the Preacher learn that life is a meaningless vapor? (vv. 12-15)

“I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem”

“I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom”

“an unhappy business that God has given to the children of men”

“done under the sun... is vanity, and a striving after the wind.”

“What is crooked cannot be made straight and what is lacking cannot be counted.”

Understanding life by earthly wisdom is like _____ the _____.

1 Kings 3

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

“You are as fragile as a mist.”

-John Piper

“All men ... have a deep longing for significance, a longing for meaning.”

-Francis Schaeffer

“In this life, some things cannot be fixed. Yet wisdom seeks to fix all things. So, wisdom is frustrated in that it cannot achieve its goal.”

-Benjamin Shaw

II. What else did the Preacher do and what did he learn? (vv. 16-18)

“applied my heart” → “I said in my heart”

“I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all...”

“applied my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly”

“a striving after the wind.”

“For in much wisdom is much vexation, & he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.”

Understanding life by earthly wisdom produces _____ & _____.

Romans 8:22

Hebrews 2:8

SERMON NOTES

1/9/2022

"God is the one who lets the gainless world go on as it is."

-Zack Eswine

"We are just an advanced breed of monkeys on a minor planet of a very average star. But we can understand the universe."

-Stephen Hawking

III. Are we supposed to settle for being angry and sad?

under the sun (earthly) vs. under the Son (eternal).

What is revealed vs. the secret things

Christ is the Wisdom of God who _____ the _____.

Deuteronomy 29:29

Proverbs 1:7

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Romans 11:33

Colossians 2:8

2 Timothy 2:7

"The kind of wisdom the Preacher had in mind was not divine wisdom but human wisdom- the very best that human beings have ever thought or said."

-Philip Ryken

"From heaven's perspective, everything is going according to plan."-Dane Ortland

Longman (Murphy)

1st Reflection vv. 13-15

Statement of the vanity of pursuing wisdom (vv. 13-14)

Quotes proverb in support (vv. 15) – can't fix it or "add it up"

2nd Reflection vv. 16-18

Statement of the vanity of pursuing wisdom (vv. 16-17)

Quotes proverb in support (vv. 18)- anger & sorrow

BIG IDEA: