

Chasing After Contentment – 1:12 – 2:26

Chasing after contentment.

Are you chasing after contentment? What is it?

How do you find it? Eccl 1:12-14

Vs 13 Wisdom to understand the world

Wisdom: knowledge and its application according to how God created the world to function.

There is a reason we are not to have other Gods, misuse his name, need a day of rest, honor parents, not murder, commit adultery, steal, lie, desire other's stuff: "so it will go well with you". Not due to punishment but you are acting in accordance of how God intended it to work right.

Vs 15 What is distorted can't be corrected, what is missing can't be supplied

Utopian pursuits will fail

Vs 16 Wisdom is procured. The teacher would not say I learned wisdom but I saw it.

Vs 18 How could the more you know be painful? No Contentment

The law of reaping and sowing is not always consistent.

What pursue has a cost if not just a reward if I view it with wisdom.

Life from only an earthly perspective is Hevel-absurd

Chasing contentment with wisdom through exploring

Pleasure and toil: life pulled along by physical indulgence and building monuments to self.

Will those who enjoy appreciate them or even remember you built them.

Wisdom and folly: Wisdom is better than folly but both die

Vs 17 I came to despise life. What long term advantage do I have being wise?

Vs 23 all this business and accomplishment minds don't rest

Toil and pleasure, wisdom and folly

Enjoyment of what you have when you have it is the only responsible solution

Nothing under the sun provides ultimate and sustained happiness.

Nor ultimate and sustained life.

Matthew 6:25-34 Seek the kingdom first.