

ECCLESIASTES 2; June 24; God's Better Lifestyle Is Simple

ANALYSIS:

1. How did the Preacher compare to the kings that preceded him in Jerusalem? _____
2. What did Solomon do whenever he found something desirous or attractive that he did not have? _____
3. What did Solomon conclude was superior to folly (sin) as light excelleth darkness? _____
4. Why did the Preacher resent and dislike all the things that he had built and accumulated in life? _____
5. What did the Preacher conclude was from the hand of God?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

The LORD God has made every choice in your life. If you are his beloved child through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, than he has chosen you to that blessed position by his sovereign will alone. To the sinner the LORD gives travail and vexation of spirit. The LORD leaves the sinner with no other ambition than to gather and heap up goods so that he may leave his possessions to whomever God wants to give them. If you this day possess wisdom, knowledge, joy, and hope, it is because the great God of heaven has chosen you to that end. Bless his name that you have been delivered from the vanity and vexation of spirit that grips all those who live for this world alone.

At the same time rejoice in what the LORD has given you to enjoy in this life. The Preacher wrote in 3:12-13: "I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life. And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labor, it is the gift of God." See also 5:18-20.

HELP:

1. Solomon had greater riches and possessions than the two previous kings that were before him in Jerusalem, also his God-given wisdom remained with him (v 9).
2. He never kept himself back from anything he desired; he enjoyed whatever he wanted (v 10).
3. Wisdom was superior to folly as light excelleth darkness (v 13).
- 4 He knew that he would leave all his possessions to someone else who might be foolish and wasteful (vs 18-19).
5. That a man should enjoy the good things from his labor that the LORD has given him (v 24).