

Ecclesiastes – Life and a time for everything

Introduction to Ecclesiastes from The Lutheran Study Bible (TLSB) p.1048

An illustration of a fly in the ointment and how this is like life

Blessings for Readers on p.1049 TLSB

1. Do you ever feel that life is a waste of time? What is the point?
 - A. Solomon summarized life in the phrase: “All is vanity.” 1:2b
 - a. Is it true that there is nothing new?
 - b. Vv. 8-9 expand and describe why all is vanity. Check the footnotes for v.9 and v.10

2. Step back and take a look at life through the experiences of Solomon.
 - A. 1:12-18 The vanity of _____
 - a. Read vv.16-18

 - B. 2:1-11 (read all) The vanity of _____

 - C. 2:12-17 Both the Wise and the Foolish _____
 - a. Read vv.12-14

 - D. 2:18-23 Human _____ is in vain.
 - a. Read vv.18-21

 - E. 2:24-26 Solomon shares a key thought.

3. If time is short, then read 12:13-14 and the footnotes
 - v.13 “*Fear God...duty of man*”

 - v.13 “*whole duty of man*”

 - vv.9-14 The search for meaning in life...

3. Time and the Purpose for every activity.
 - A. 3:1-8 God gives a proper time and purpose for every activity
 - a. TLSB Ftnt. v.1
 - B. 3:9-15 What God does endures forever
 - a. Read. Vv.12-13
 - C. 3:16-22 God is the final judge
 - a. What truth do we still see from vv.16-17
 - b. What do we confess in the Creed about judgment?
 - D. 4:1-16
 - a. Read vv.1-8 and the various nuggets of wisdom
 - b. Vv.9-12 are familiar. See TLSB ftnt. v.9 and v.12
 - E. 5:10-6:12 God alone gives joy in life.

Time is considered the most precious commodity now, even above money. How do we use our time?