

Sermon Outline

YOUR LIFE IS VAIN, *Ecclesiastes 1:1-11*

Scripture texts:

Ecclesiastes 1:1-12

- ¹The words of *the Preacher*, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.
- ²Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.
- ³What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?
- ⁴A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.
- ⁵The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.
- ⁶The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north;
around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.
- ⁷All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full;
to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again.
- ⁸All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it;
the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.
- ⁹What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done,
and there is nothing new under the sun.
- ¹⁰Is there a thing of which it is said, “See, this is new”?
It has been already in the ages before us.
- ¹¹There is no remembrance of former things,
nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be
among those who come after.
- ¹²I the Preacher have been king over Israel [...]

Ecclesiastes 12:9, 13-14

- ⁹Besides being wise, *the Preacher* also taught the people knowledge [...]
- ¹³The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for
this is the whole duty of man.
- ¹⁴For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or
evil.

Mark 8:36

- ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what
can a man give in return for his soul?

OUTLINE:

I. Blowing Bubbles

II. An Overview of Ecclesiastes *The Bookends*

1. All of Life under the Sun IS Vain (v2-3)

2. Because...

a. You are quickly passing (v4)

b. You will never find lasting satisfaction while you live (v5-8)

c. You will never make a lasting difference after you die (v9-11)

III. Accept it!