

## On Wisdom Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

vs, 12 - identifies self as Solomon since no other king devoted himself to wisdom.

Gave himself to task of acquiring wisdom and knowledge but found it a miserable work, not the purest form of calling as was usually stated.

1. challenges notion that pursuit of knowledge fulfills life and gives a person permanent significance.

2. sees it as a hopeless task - can't find the answers he seeks.

3. he kept going because he thought it was the burden imposed on him by God

vs. 13 - seek and explore

- seek means to investigate the roots of a matter - like a dissertation

- explore means to examine all sides

whatever he was investigating he went after it full speed ahead - he studied it in detail and then participated in it. (Today he'd be on Oprah talking about the book)

during examination and study he had occasion to observe people going through their daily routines and pursuits and found that they were all meaningless (when done under the sun)

Twisted and lacking - some things just can't be understood or solved through wisdom and knowledge because God's ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts. - Isaiah 55:6-9

Since wisdom didn't work, he went on Hee Haw - applied himself to madness and folly. He went after the pursuit of pleasure (in the next few verses), but it didn't give him any satisfaction either. folly = foolishness, human thoughts, illicit sex, sin, etc.

The more he learned the more dissatisfied and unhappy he became.

- acquisition of knowledge and wisdom shows how much more there is to learn.

- more he sought his answer under the sun the more it eluded him.

- the more he learned the more futile it all seemed to be

- relying on your own wisdom and knowledge will get you in trouble.

- Proverbs 3:5-7

Reading between the lines

- if there is nothing but nothing under the sun, our only hope must be above it. - I Corinthians 15:19

- if a man who had everything, investigated everything visible, then the one thing needed must be invisible