

## Book Tour 2018 (Ecclesiastes)

### What Doesn't Matter

#### Ecclesiastes 2:1-17

**God's Word is true.** God's Word is sharp and good. I will tell others of its great power **so that He will receive all worship and power in our life.**

**Introduction:** I want to say from the onset that this sermon will not be an exposition. I am not going to try to make the text say something that it doesn't but there is a principle here and really throughout all of scripture that there are some things that don't really matter and so my goal is to reveal from scripture the things that maybe we put much emphasis on that don't really matter and end with the only thing that does really matter!

- A. Most agree that Solomon wrote the book and if there was someone who could speak on things that doesn't matter it was Solomon.
  1. Solomon the son of King David was very wealth, very powerful, very influential, and very well liked!
    - There was not much that Solomon did not have when came to things of this life along with those intangible things he was the owner of lots of material things as well livestock, and servants and houses.
  - It would seem that Solomon had the life that everyone else dreams of!
  - Everything that matters in this life he had at his finger tips!
  2. But Solomon had something else as well: He had wisdom! That God gave him!
    - 8 Solomon said to God, "You have dealt with my father David with great lovingkindness, and have made me king in his place. 9 Now, O Lord God, Your [c]promise to my father David is fulfilled, for You have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth. 10

Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people, for who can rule this great people of Yours?" 11 God said to Solomon, "Because [d]you had this in mind, and did not ask for riches, wealth or honor, or the life of those who hate you, nor have you even asked for long life, but you have asked for yourself wisdom and knowledge that you may rule My people over whom I have made you king, 12 wisdom and knowledge have been granted to you. And I will give you riches and wealth and honor, [e]such as none of the kings who were before you has possessed nor those who will [f]come after you." 13 So Solomon went [g]from the high place which was at Gibeon, from the tent of meeting, to Jerusalem, and he reigned over Israel. 2 Chronicles 1:8-13

- It was the wisdom the God gave to Solomon that opened his eyes to see what truly matters and what doesn't!

**Transition: We often spend way to much time and energy on things that in the end really doesn't matter a whole lot!**

A. It doesn't really matter what we think about!

**I. It Doesn't Matter what We Think about It. Verse 1-3 Read**

A. Solomon said he explored with his mind!

1. Here is what he came up with: I thought about what would stimulate, what would and was it that I could, if I was thinking wisely about what men to do all their lives.

- Church you see it really what we think about it, what matters is what God says about it!

> We spend so much time trying to figure things out that are already in the palm of God's hand!

- God said take no thought of tomorrow for tomorrow will take care of its self

2. We spend so much effort trying to figure out how to raise our children, what to do with our finances, how to treat our marriage, all the things that mankind does.

> But truthfully it doesn't really matter what we think what matters is what does God say about!

\* God says in the Book of James if anyone lacks wisdom let them ask and He will give is to him but pay close attention. The wisdom comes from God and not out of our intellect.

> Now I know that is a shot at our pride but it doesn't matter what we think about it what matter is what God thinks about!

B. I love how Solomon say the few years of their life!

1. Man is trying his best to figure it all for himself and in the end we will find out that to spend so much time trying to please man, how to fit into this world is just folly!

2. Because whatever we think about doesn't really matter because what we think about really doesn't matter!

**Transition: Church I am not saying that God does not want us to think about things I am just saying that we if try to figure things ourselves and it will be folly.**

1. We need God! We need a relationship with God we need to think of good things and let God fill our mind with His Word!

## II. It Doesn't Matter what we Do About it Verse 4-11

### A. The writer does great things.

1. He said he built houses for himself.
  - He lived wherever he wanted to live.
- But that is not the point even the point is that he did it.
  - He built the houses and he planted the Vineyards, he made the gardens, he planted trees, ponds of water, he brought in servants.
  - He bought slaves and flocks and herds.
- And He did it bigger than anyone else!
- Well bless his heart look what all he did!
- It doesn't stop there he gather a bunch of money, he even went out and got his own band!
  - Whatever he wanted to do that is what he did!
2. His heart was pleased because of everything that he had done!
  - We would applaud his effort and truthfully had done nothing wrong!
- But the truth is it doesn't really matter!
  - 11 Thus I considered all my activities which my hands had done and the labor which I had [a]exerted, and behold all was [b]vanity and striving after wind and there was no profit under the sun. Ecclesiastes 2:11
  - When he took a look at all he had done he that he did it all for himself!
- Church there is nothing wrong with doing great things. But here is the thing!
  - Scripture says that whatever we do it should be done for God's glory!

- It doesn't really matter what we have accomplished, It doesn't really matter what we have done if it was done for the glory of God!
- What are you doing for the glory of God, What are we doing for the glory of God.
  - Entire church are doing great works but it to bring attention to the fellowship!
- When Solomon looked at everything he had done he called it vanity!
  - He compared it to the wind you really can't tell where it comes from or where it goes it has no identity!
- 3. Church you have all the wealth in the world...
  - You can have all the material possessions there are to be had!
  - Power and influence but here is the thing!
- It doesn't really matter what we accomplish if it is not done for the glory of God because we are going to die!

**Transition: We are going all going to die then what?**

- A. In the end it will not matter what we thought or what we did what will matter is what our relationship with God is!
  - When asked what is important in life folks will generally say something like I did my best or I try to be good!
- But listen to me in the end it doesn't really matter thoughts or accomplishment what matters is what is done for the glory of God!

**Closing: Let me bring some thoughts together.**

1. The Bible teaches us that rewards can be received in 2 ways you can be revered by man or you can enjoy the blessing of God for all eternity!

- Because everything thing that is accomplished that is good is belongs to God to Him be the glory!

2. To much is made of the accomplishments of man what made does for himself dies when he dies but what is done for the glory of God last forever.

➤ So to God be the glory!