**Ladies Bible Study**

**Ecclesiastes, Lesson Three**

**Ecclesiastes 4 & 5**

**March 24, 2020**

Chapter 4

 In this chapter we continue the melancholy view that Solomon is expressing towards the life and purpose of our time on this earth. Chapter 4 is largely observations of why people labor on earth and how ultimately, their motivations are selfish, prideful and do not bring fulfillment.

v. 1-3

Sometimes oppression is so severe that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seem preferable.

v. 4

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ much of what man does and strives for is because he envies his neighbor.

v. 5

A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ does nothing and then has nothing to show for it.

v. 6

It is better to find a healthy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ between the v. 4 and v. 5 man.

v. 7-8

A man with no family works tirelessly in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Recall the man mentioned in 2:18-22. Both must leave \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on this earth to someone who hasn’t earned it.

v. 9

Working \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is more beneficial.

v. 10-12

Working together rather than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ allows for support, health and protection.

v. 13-16

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stays in power forever. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is temporary.

**Chapter 5**

The first part of chapter 5 switches to a more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ like writing with very practical application.

v. 1

Before going before God consider \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and be sure your motives are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or you are a fool. (Prov. 15:8; 21:27)

v. 2-3

Choose your words \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and “let them be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

* Prov 10:19
* Matthew 6:7
* Philippians 4: 6-7
* 1 Thess. 5:17
* 1 Peter 5:7

v. 4-7

Do not make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_you cannot keep! To not follow through is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! (Prov. 27:1; Acts 5:1-11)

v. 8-9

Do not be surprised at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (4:1)

v. 10

There’s no such thing as “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. “ Whoever has is always wanting more and their pursuit is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

v. 11

The more that is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the more that is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

v. 12

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ allows one to rest well whether you are rich or poor. A man who’s full off others labor is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He has lots to be anxious about!

v. 13-14

It is a sad evil when a man \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and then \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it in a bad investment.

v. 15

We come into this world with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and we can take nothing with us when we die.

* 1 Tim. 6:6-10

v. 16-17

So, what’s the point? It’s all “chasing after the wind.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will experience the pains of this world regardless of what we acquire on earth.

v. 18-19

It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for those who love God to enjoy the things He has given us on earth.

v. 20

When our joy is in the Lord and our perspective on eternity, we don’t worry about the struggle of this world because it is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and we are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for what we have!

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**Observation Sheet for Lesson 4**

**Read Ecclesiastes 6:1-12**

* To help us better understand the nature and character of God, define these words:

**Immutability:**

**Inscrutability**:

**Sovereignty**:

* What does the man in verses 1-2 have in common with the man in verses 3-6?
* Verses 7 What is never satisfied?
* Verse 9 “Better what the eye sees than the roving of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* In the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon askes over 20 questions. These are NOT rhetorical questions with obvious or sometimes, absurd answers. Solomon’s questions show a seriousness or an urgency for answers. Chapter 6 contains 6 of them.
* Answer the following questions laid out in these verses. One word answers only

Verse 6b “Do not all go to the same place?”

Verse 8a “For what advantage does the wise man have over the fool?”

Verse 8b “What do the poor gain by knowing how to conduct themselves before others?

Verse 11b “What then is the advantage to a man?”

Verse 12a “For who knows what is good for a man during his lifetime, during the few years of his futile life?”

Verse 12b “For who can tell a man what will be after him under the sun?”

God’s desire for us is to be completely satisfied with Him! Not for what He can do for us or what He can give us but to seek Him with all our heart and worship Him. Be encouraged as you listen to Natalie Grant’s song, “More than Anything”.

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