



The Search For Satisfaction

Ecclesiastes 1:12 – 2:26

Series: Escaping Futility, Enjoying Fulfillment,
the Book of Ecclesiastes, #2

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Theme: **Life without God is pointless.**

The search for satisfaction proves to be futile.

1. Human wisdom's insights are ultimately useless. (1:12-18, 2:13-15)
2. Pleasure's enjoyments are empty. (2:1-11)
3. Work's achievements are temporary. (2:12-23)

The summary of this search.

1. There is no real satisfaction without God. (2:25-26)
2. There is a wealth of satisfaction with God. (2:24-26)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. Read 1:12 – 2:26. King Solomon’s extensive search led to some hard-hitting conclusions. True, lasting satisfaction cannot be found in any of our own efforts. As you reflect on this, probe to see if you really believe it. If so, think of and list some implications for yourself.

Tuesday. Today focus on the benefits and limits of human wisdom. Read through 1:12-18 and 2:13-15. Paraphrase what Solomon tells us here about the benefits and next the limits of human wisdom. Then complete this sentence, “This truth means I need to ...”

Wednesday. Our focus today is on 2:1-23, where the king deals with pleasure and achievement. After you read the passage, examine where you look to find satisfaction. Remember that pleasure’s enjoyments are empty and work’s achievements are only temporary.

Thursday. In the closing lines of this section, 2:24-26, King Solomon summarizes his long quest by underscoring that there is a wealth of satisfaction with God, but no real satisfaction without God. As a child of God you are not immune from going down some of the same dead-end streets Solomon tried almost 3,000 years ago. Make any needed course corrections now.

Friday – Saturday. On Sunday we plan to consider *finding happiness in a chaotic world*. Read Ecclesiastes 3:1 – 4:16 in preparation for our time together.

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