

## INTRODUCTION

- \* Solomon allowed his heart to be turned away from YHWH, and he forgot (or minimized) his Creator. As a result, he began to pursue self-pleasure and ultimately began to worship foreign gods.
- \* In his pursuit of self-pleasure, Solomon found that - apart from the Creator - all things are vanity.
- \* One of Solomon's major pursuits for fulfillment and pleasure was in his building projects ... which he refers to as his labors - his toil.
- \* Again, we want to consider Solomon's flawed perspective regarding "labor" and then what should be our philosophy and perspective regarding work and labor as we live our days "under the sun."

## INSTRUCTION

### I. SOLOMON'S PERSPECTIVE ON LABOR

#### A. The Positive ... MAN SHOULD ENJOY THE GOOD OF HIS LABOR

1. FOR THIS IS FROM THE HAND OF GOD (2:24)
2. FOR THIS IS THE GIFT OF GOD (3:13; 5:19)
3. FOR THIS IS HIS HERITAGE FROM GOD (5:18)

#### B. The Negative

1. THE DECLARATIONS (cf. 2:18,20)
2. THE RATIONALE (2:18-19, 21-23)
3. THE REALITY (cf. 1 Kings 11:9-14)

### II. SCRIPTURE'S PERSPECTIVE ON LABOR

#### A. The P\_\_\_\_\_ of Work

1. YHWH'S WORK (cf. Genesis 1:7,16,25,26,31; 2:18; Exodus 20:9)
2. ADAM'S WORK (cf. Genesis 2:5; 2:15; 3:23)

#### B. The P\_\_\_\_\_ of Work (cf. Matthew 6:19-33; Philippians 3:20-21)

#### C. The P\_\_\_\_\_ of Work (cf. 1 Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 6:5-9)

#### D. The P\_\_\_\_\_ of Work

1. RE\_\_\_\_\_ THE T\_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Proverbs 10:4; 12:24; 12:27; 20:4; 21:25)
2. RE\_\_\_\_\_ THE T\_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Proverbs 13:4; 22:29; Ephesians 4:28; 5:15-17; 1 Thess 4:9-12; 2 Thess 3:7-15)

John 9:4; Romans 13:10-14

## INTROSPECTION

- \* What is your view of work? Is it good or evil?
- \* What is your purpose in "work"? Do you ultimately see your labor as an opportunity to reveal God and glorify His name?
- \* Are you diligent or lazy? What are you willing to change to become more diligent?
- \* Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

## INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- \* How does my labor provide me a platform to witness to others?
- \* How can we as a body work and labor together more effectively to advance the Kingdom of God?