

P.M. OUTLINE
7/25/2021

WHAT IN THE WORLD?

(Ecclesiastes 3:16 - 4:16)

1. (3:16 - 22) SOLOMON SAW INJUSTICE

- 1) (v16) "In the place of judgment, wickedness was there ... iniquity was there"
- 2) (v17-22) Solomon makes 3 observations about this lack of justice:
 1. (v17) "God shall judge the righteous and the wicked"
Looking ahead: (Ecc. 8:11-13) "it will not be well with the wicked"
 2. (v18-21) "as one dies, so does the other"
 3. (v22) "who can see what will happen after him?"

2. (4:1-3) SOLOMON SAW OPPRESSION

3. (v4-6) SOLOMON SAW ENVY

4. (v7-12) SOLOMON SAW RELATIONSHIPS

- 1) (v7-8) "and I saw vanity under the sun: **there is one alone**, without companion ... no end to all his labors, nor is his eye satisfied with riches. Never asks, For whom ... "

Work, work, work, and losing friends and relationships. No balance in life.
- 2) (v9-12) "**Two are better than one**" - 4 reasons people need people
 1. (v9) "Because they have a good reward for their labor"
 2. (v10) "For if they fall, one will life up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up"
 3. (v11) "Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone?"
 4. (v12) "Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

5. (v13-16) SOLOMON SAW POPULARITY IS FLEETING

(v13) "a poor and wise youth" "an old and foolish king" (v15) "second youth"
(v16) "yet those who come afterward will not rejoice in him.
Surely this is also vanity and grasping for the wind."

CLOSE - Don't get derailed over worldly issues we cannot fix or cannot understand because it is "vanity and grasping for the wind."
With all these worldly issues, Solomon is trying to turn us toward God.