

# Reality Check: A study of Ecclesiastes

A young man's book? A book for cynical middle-agers too!  
An honest appraisal of the meaninglessness of living life "under the sun"  
without the reference point of God's revelation.

## January

6<sup>th</sup> **Everything goes round in circles** - Introduction – The Preacher knows better  
– or does he? Ecclesiastes 1:1-12

13<sup>th</sup> **I can't get no satisfaction** Ecclesiastes 1:13-2:26: Am I looking in all the  
wrong places? Wisdom, Pleasures, Folly, Toil?

20<sup>th</sup> **Turn Turn Turn** : The Tyranny of Time! Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

27<sup>th</sup> **Rat Race Road Rage**: The Harshness of Life! Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:16

## February

3<sup>rd</sup> **Pious talk**: Standing in Awe of God! Religion falls short. Ecclesiastes 5:1- 7

10<sup>th</sup> **Bitter Disappointments**: Two cases of misfortune. Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:22

17<sup>th</sup> **Facing the Facts**: Wisdom's limits – man's sin. Ecclesiastes 7:1-22

24<sup>th</sup> **Frustrations** :Seeking, but not finding/ Living with kings Ecclesiastes 7:15-9:1

## March

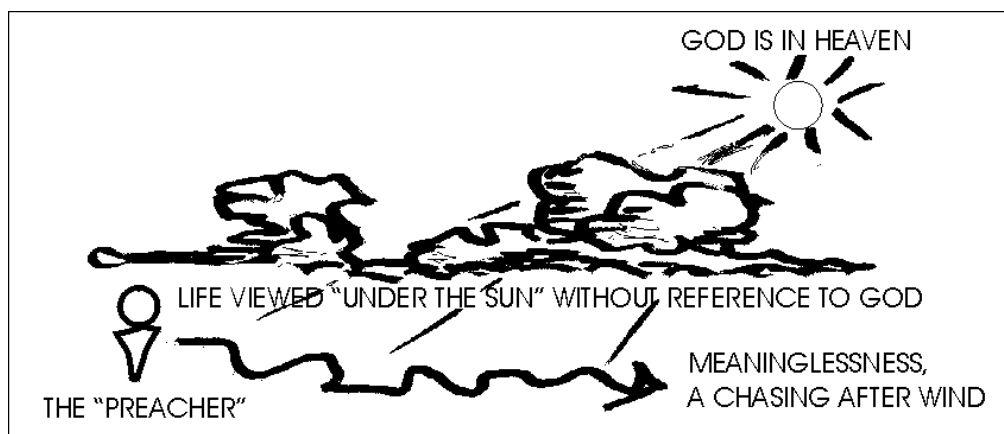
3<sup>rd</sup> **Jeopardy** – Seizing the Day – as God intends Ecclesiastes 9:2-9:18

10<sup>th</sup> **Living Sensibly** while under the sun Ecclesiastes 9:13-10:20

17<sup>th</sup> **Keeping the Creator in view** Ecclesiastes 11:1-12:7  
Henry Krabbendam (guest)

24<sup>th</sup> **In Conclusion, when all has been heard** Ecclesiastes 12:8-14

31<sup>st</sup> – Easter (No Class)



# Bibliography of sources on Ecclesiastes:

## Published Sources:

### **The Way of Solomon : Finding Joy and Contentment in the Wisdom of Ecclesiastes**

by Rami M. Shapiro - Hardcover - 160 pages (March 2000)  
Harper San Francisco; ISBN: 0060673001

### **Is This All There Is to Life? : Answers from Ecclesiastes**

by Ray C. Stedman - Hardcover - 192 pages (January 2000)  
Discovery Enterprises; ISBN: 1572930586  
Available Online in html, pdf and audio formats (below)

### **Message of Ecclesiastes (Bible Speaks Today)**

by Derek Kidner - Paperback Reprint edition (January 1988)  
Intervarsity Press; ISBN: 0877842868

### **The Book of Ecclesiastes (New International Commentary on the Old Testament)**

by Tremper Longman - Hardcover - 320 pages (January 1998)  
Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.; ISBN: 0802823661

### **The Wisdom of Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes : An Introduction to Wisdom Literature**

by Derek Kidner - Paperback - 175 pages (November 1985)  
Intervarsity Press; ISBN: 0877844054

### **Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon: A Self Study Guide**

by Irving L. Jensen - Paperback (July 1987)  
Moody Press; ISBN: 0802410219 (Out of Print)

## Online Resources:

Links Sites:

**World Wide Study Bible: Ecclesiastes**

**Old Testament Gateway: Ecclesiastes**

**The Text This Week: Ecclesiastes**

Online Materials:

*Ecclesiastes: The Inspired Book of Error* by Ray C. Stedman

**Is This All There Is to Life? : Answers from Ecclesiastes** by Ray C. Stedman

**The Theology of Ecclesiastes** by M. James Sawyer, Ph.D.

**The Burden of God: Studies in Wisdom and Civilization from the Book of Ecclesiastes** by Michael Kelley (Online book)

Introduction, Outline & Bibliography by David Malick (www.bible.org)

*Qoheleth and Job: Diverse Responses to the Enigma of Evil* by Rosemary Dewey