

### **Ecclesiastes chapter 4**

The author looks at the fate of the oppressed; who does he consider to be better off than them?

In his discussion of the value of labor the author concludes that it, too, is futile or meaningless. Is there any positive guidance in this chapter that might be beneficial to us?

### **Ecclesiastes chapter 11**

In all the uncertainties of life, what advice does the author give? [1-6]

“Life is pleasant and should be enjoyed – but don’t forget that it is ultimately meaningless.” Is this a good summary of verses 7 and 8?

How should we live our lives, according to verses 9 and 10?

### **Ecclesiastes chapter 12**

Verses 1-7 form one long sentence (NET and NRSV) that begins with a command. Why is that sentence so long (the pivot point is “before”)?

Verse eight is the concluding (re)statement of the theme of this book, which was first propounded in 1:2. What is that theme?

In 9-14, after exhaustively demonstrating the futility and meaninglessness of most of the things in life that people value, the writer provides some advice. What does he find worthwhile? and what is his recommendation?

Next week: Song of Songs chapters 4, 7, and 8.