



SeriesNotes



Part 1: Set to Score | August 21 & 22, 2010

Main Point: God does not want you to be another person; He wants to redeem you into the best version of you.

#1 Searching For Meaning. We, as humans, tend to do a lot of experimenting in our search for meaning.

Ecclesiastes 2:1a I said to myself, “Come on, let’s try pleasure. Let’s look for the ‘good things’ in life.”

Ecclesiastes 2:1b-2 But I found that this, too, was meaningless. So I said, “Laughter is silly. What good does it do to seek pleasure?”

Ecclesiastes 2:3 After much thought, I decided to cheer myself with wine. And while still seeking wisdom, I clutched at foolishness. In this way, I tried to experience the only happiness most people find during their brief life in this world.

Proverbs 23:31&32 Don’t gaze at the wine, seeing how red it is, how it sparkles in the cup, how smoothly it goes down. For in the end it bites like a poisonous snake; it stings like a viper.

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#2 The Pursuit Of Possessions. Solomon tried the path of possessions. In today’s dollars, he would have earned \$18,000,000 per WEEK!

Ecclesiastes 5:10 Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!

Ecclesiastes 1:16 I said to myself, “Look, I am wiser than any of the kings who ruled in Jerusalem before me. I have greater wisdom and knowledge than any of them.”

Ecclesiastes 1:17 So I set out to learn everything from wisdom to madness and folly. But I learned firsthand that pursuing all this is like chasing the wind.

Ecclesiastes 2:4-6 I also tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards. I made gardens and parks, filling them with all kinds of fruit trees. I built reservoirs to collect the water to irrigate my many flourishing groves.

Ecclesiastes 2:8 ...I had everything a man could desire!

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11 Anything I wanted, I would take. I denied myself no pleasure. I even found great pleasure in hard work, a reward for all my labors. But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like chasing the wind. There was nothing really worthwhile anywhere.

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#3 It's All About God. Something will always be missing in your life if you don't put God, your Creator, first.

Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember your Creator.

Psalms 92:12-13 ...“The righteous will flourish like a palm tree...they will flourish in the courts of our God.”

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#4 God Does The Work. Only God can bridge the gap between languishing and flourishing.

John 7:37-39 On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, “Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’” (When he said “living water,” he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him...)

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You have to surrender to Jesus and abide in Him so that streams of living water will flow through you. George Herbert said, “It's never too late to be who you might have been.” Have you surrendered your heart, mind, time, relationships and your career to the Spirit of the Living God?

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