

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1275

July 14, 2019

Ecclesiastes 12:13, “*Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this [is] the whole [duty] of man.*”

As the book of Ecclesiastes was concluding, Solomon wrote about what really matters in life. In the original language the word “duty” was not in the text. Solomon was asking what is the whole of man.

Many philosophers who do not turn to the Bible struggle with the purpose of our existence. They strive for completeness with worldly things such as relationships and wealth. All of these things will pass.

One of the reasons there is so much suicide is that people do not realize their purpose and feel there is nothing to live for. People do not look beyond this life.

Our purpose in this life is not here and now. Our purpose is beyond and after this life. To this end Solomon wrote that to fear God and keep His commandments is the whole of man. There is nothing else that matters.

No doubt Solomon was feeling this as his life progressed. He had pursued everything that was available to him. He had 700 wives. He had riches and wisdom beyond all others. These were certainly not fulfilling. He stated that the only thing the material things were good for were just to look at. Ecclesiastes 5:11, “*When goods increase, they are increased that eat them: and what good [is there] to the owners thereof, saving the beholding [of them] with their eyes.*”

As far as all his wives, they turned his heart from the LORD. I Kings 11:4, “*For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, [that] his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as [was] the heart of David his father.*” Note that this did not happen as a young man. His heart was turned to follow other gods when he was old. We need to be watchful all our lives.

He didn’t have wives as the LORD had commanded. The Israelites were to not only marry other Israelites, but they could only marry within their tribes. Numbers 36:6-7, “*This [is] the thing which the LORD doth command concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, Let them marry to whom they think best; only to the family of the tribe of their father shall they marry. <sup>7</sup>So shall not the inheritance of the children of Israel remove from tribe to tribe: for every one of the children of Israel shall keep himself to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.*”

Solomon not only married wives from out of his tribe, which was Judah, but he married women of strange lands who did not follow the LORD. Numbers 13:26, “*Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin.*” The only time the word “outlandish” is used in the Bible is in this verse. The women were truly out of the land and turned Solomon’s heart from the LORD.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

# News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher**, **Steve Seaton**, **Shirley Parson**, **Brad Terry**, and **Denise Miller** (the sister of Sharon Franklin). **Enola Zigler**, the aunt of Mike Burd fell and broke her hip. She is 97 years old and doing well.

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Solomon had wealth beyond what we can imagine. There was so much silver we are told it was accounted for nothing. Solomon even made all his drinking vessels and shields of gold. No wonder he said all there was to do with things were to look at them. It means nothing.

Besides hundreds of wives and gold in abundance, Solomon had wisdom like no one before or after. He had asked the LORD for wisdom, and the LORD granted this to him. He did have wisdom, but his life shows he didn't use his wisdom. Along with turning his heart from God, he built houses for false gods.

Solomon had done all that was possible. We are told he withheld nothing from himself. Ecclesiastes 2:10, *“And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.”* Solomon let himself have anything and do anything, but yet there was no fulfillment in this.

When thinking over life throughout the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon came to a conclusion. There was nothing that mattered but fearing God and keeping His commandments.

Let's use what Solomon learned as a lesson for us. Let's not pursue the pleasures of this life as fulfillment. Nothing makes us whole except the fearing of God and keeping His commandments. As Solomon wrote, *“This is the whole [duty] of man.”*

—Marty Edwards❖

Sunday, June 7, 2019		
Classes	22	James 3:9-18
Preaching	31	Revelation 1:1-20
Contribution	\$792.00	
Evening	14	Singing (Psalm 82:1-8)
Wednesday, June 10, 2019		
Classes	16	II Chronicles 21:1-20

July 7 (AM) John Lay (Glasgow, KY) & Jordan Strother (Uno, KY); Kaylee Robinson (Belvidere, TN)

Visitors— July 7 (PM) Denise Miller (Hodgenville, KY); Margaret Sandidge (Hardyville, KY); Joanna Locke (Hardyville, KY)

July 10 (Wed) John Lay (Glasgow, KY) & Jordan Strother (Uno, KY)

## Bible Quiz

What type of disease was Jehoram stricken with?

Last Week's Answer— The beauty of holiness (II Chronicles 2:21)

### —God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)