



GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE MIST

BUSY WITH JOY

ECCLESIASTES 5:8-6:9

Ben Blakey - Compass Bible Church - February 19 & 20, 2022

1. Unmask _____

(5:8-17)

Ecclesiastes 5:8–6:9 (ESV)

5:8 If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. 9 But this is gain for a land in every way: a king committed to cultivated fields. 10 He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. 11 When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? 12 Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep. 13 There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, 14 and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. 15 As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. 16 This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? 17 Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger. 18 Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. 19 Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. 20 For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart. 6:1 There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind: 2 a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous evil. 3 If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life's good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he. 4 For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered. 5 Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. 6 Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place? 7 All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. 8 For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? 9 Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind.

2. Get _____

(5:18-20)

3. See _____

(6:1-9)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. **Read Ecclesiastes 5:10-11.** Even a simple glance at the lifestyles of the rich and the famous in our own day should prove that more wealth does not equal more happiness; why do you suppose it is still so easy for us to fall into that trap?

2. **Read Proverbs 23:4-5.** What are some ways you have experienced the fleeting nature of wealth? How should this help us think differently about wealth as Christians?

3. **Read Ecclesiastes 5:18-20.** Notice how frequently this passage refers to God! What are some theological truths that you need to dwell on more in order to be content and enjoy God's daily gifts?

4. What are some physical/circumstantial things in your life that you want to more intentionally savor this week? What are some of the spiritual blessings that you want to meditate on more?

5. **Read Ecclesiastes 5:9.** What are some ways that your appetite might be tempted to wander instead of being content with what your eyes can see? We don't want to look back on our lives and realize we missed out on the good things God had for us. Can you think of a situation or circumstance in your life where this might be the case because of being too busy desiring something else?

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Here are some books which may help you dig deeper into what we studied today. While Pastor Ben cannot endorse everything about each book/author, he does think these books are worth considering and reading.

Wiersbe, Warren. *Be Satisfied*. Victor Books, 1990.

Burroughs, Jeremiah. *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment*. CreateSpace Independent Publish Platform, 2013. Kindle Edition.

Rigney, Joe. *The Things of Earth*. Crossway, 2015.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that God would keep us from discontentment and the desire for more.

Pray that we would savor God's daily gifts this week.

Pray that God will provide a long-term home for CBCTV through the Taking Ground project.

Pray for our upcoming women's event - that God would grow our biblical discernment

Pray for Compass Hill Country as they finish renovations on their new facility.

REVIVAL FROM THE BIBLE READING

Date	Old Testament	New Testament
2/21	Leviticus 1-5	Matthew 14:24-36, Mark 6:47-56, John 6:16-21
2/22	Leviticus 6-8	John 6:22-40
2/23	Leviticus 9-11	John 6:41-71
2/24	Leviticus 12-14	Matthew 15:1-20, Mark 7:1-23
2/25	Leviticus 15-17	Matthew 15:21-31, Mark 7:24-37
2/26	Leviticus 18-20	Matthew 15:32-38, Mark 8:1-9