



GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE MIST HONORING THE KING IN A FOREIGN LAND ECCLESIASTES 8:1-17

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

1. Resolve _____
(vv. 9-15)

Ecclesiastes 8:1-17 (ESV)

8 Who is like the wise?

*And who knows the interpretation of a thing?
A man's wisdom makes his face shine,
and the hardness of his face is changed.*

*2 I say: Keep the king's command, because of
God's oath to him. 3 Be not hasty to go from
his presence. Do not take your stand in an evil
cause, for he does whatever he pleases. 4 For
the word of the king is supreme, and who may
say to him, "What are you doing?" 5 Whoever
keeps a command will know no evil thing, and
the wise heart will know the proper time and
the just way. 6 For there is a time and a way for
everything, although man's trouble lies heavy
on him. 7 For he does not know what is to be,
for who can tell him how it will be? 8 No man
has power to retain the spirit, or power over
the day of death. There is no discharge from
war, nor will wickedness deliver those who are
given to it. 9 All this I observed while applying
my heart to all that is done under the sun, when
man had power over man to his hurt.*

Those Who Fear God Will Do Well

*10 Then I saw the wicked buried. They used
to go in and out of the holy place and were
praised in the city where they had done such
things. This also is vanity. 11 Because the
sentence against an evil deed is not executed
speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully
set to do evil. 12 Though a sinner does evil a
hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know
that it will be well with those who fear God,
because they fear before him. 13 But it will not
be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong
his days like a shadow, because he does not
fear before God. 14 There is a vanity that takes
place on earth, that there are righteous people
to whom it happens according to the deeds
of the wicked, and there are wicked people to
whom it happens according to the deeds of the
righteous. I said that this also is vanity. 15 And I
commend joy, for man has nothing better under
the sun but to eat and drink and be joyful, for
this will go with him in his toil through the days
of his life that God has given him under the sun.
16 When I applied my heart to know wisdom,
and to see the business that is done on earth,
how neither day nor night do one's eyes see
sleep, 17 then I saw all the work of God, that
man cannot find out the work that is done
under the sun. However much man may toil in
seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a
wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.*

2. Represent _____
(vv. 2-8)

3. Live _____
(vv. 1, 16-17)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. **Read Proverbs 23:17 & Psalm 37:1-2.** What are some of the ways your heart may be tempted to envy sinners or to be afraid because of them? How does the fear of the Lord adjust your perspective?
2. **Read 1 Peter 1:14-17.** In a world where unrighteousness is praised, what are some of the ways you may be tempted to lower the standard and settle for being “better” than the world? How can you seek to grow in holiness in these areas?
3. **Read Titus 3:1-2.** As you consider the different phrases here, which ones stand out the most as ways that you can grow in representing the Ultimate King in an unjust and wicked world?
4. Which of the biblical examples mentioned during point #2 stood out to you the most? What can you learn and apply from these examples?
5. **Reread all of Psalm 37.** Pick a couple verses from this Psalm that give you reason to be confident and joyful in the midst of a frustrating and broken world. How will these verses encourage you this week?

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.
Lutzer, Erwin. *We Will Not Be Silenced*. Harvest House Publishers, 2020.
Mohler, Albert. *The Gathering Storm*. Thomas Nelson, 2020.
Wurmbrand, Richard. *Tortured for Christ*. David C Cook, 2017.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that our church would be characterized by the fear of the Lord.
Pray that God would help us to live wisely in the midst of a foolish world.
Pray that God help us to be humble and joyful.
Pray that Easter and Resurrection Week would exalt Jesus and build up the church!
Pray that God will provide a long-term home for CBCTV through the Taking Ground project.

REVIVAL FROM THE BIBLE READING

Date	Old Testament	New Testament
3/21	Deuteronomy 3-4	Luke 13:1-21
3/22	Deuteronomy 5-7	John 9:1-17
3/23	Deuteronomy 8-10	John 9:18-41
3/24	Deuteronomy 11-13	John 10:1-21
3/25	Deuteronomy 14-16	John 10:22-42
3/26	Deuteronomy 17-20	Luke 13:22-35