

# Ecclesiastes: Seeking Good

*Ecclesiastes 5 & 6*

## Worship (5:1-7)

- We ought to come to God quietly & humbly (v. 1-3)
  - Ready to listen rather than speak
    - A quiet heart is better than sacrifice
- We ought to be quick to fulfill our promises, especially to God (v. 4-6)
  - It is better not to make promises than not to keep them
- We need to be careful with our dreaming (v. 7)
  - Planning for the future must be limited
  - Only God knows what the future holds (see Jas 4:13-16)

## Corruption (v. 8-9)

- Corruption exists within any political system (v. 8)
  - And the more people involved, the more corruption is likely
- However, without some oversight, society would break down (v. 9)
  - Even the farmer benefits from a just king

## Sharing & Contentment (5:10-6:9)

- Human appetites drive us and yet are never satisfied (6:7)
  - Wealth & pleasure (5:10-20)
  - Power & security (6:1-6)
  - Wisdom (6:7-9)
  - Fame (6:10-12)
- Hoarding any of these is a sin
  - We are called to share what we have with those in need
  - And to use the position & resources that God has allotted us for something that lasts
- We might amass goods, but they may not lead us to goodness
  - This is even true when it comes to things normally seen as biblical blessings, like children & long life
- We are better off being content with what we have than constantly chasing more of any of these things (6:9)

## Seeking a Name (v. 10-12)

- Everything has already been named (Gen. 2:20)
  - Including “Man”/Adam = Dust
- Yet we strive to make a name for ourselves
  - See Gen. 6:4, “men of renown” = “men of a name”
- By doing so, we contend with the Creator (v. 10-11; see Gen. 3:5)
  - Who alone knows what is best and what is to come (v. 12)

## So What?

- Are our lives devoted to just ourselves, to accumulating wealth, power, & fame?
- Or are we devoting ourselves to God & others through worship and sharing what God has blessed us with

***Meditation Verse:** Ecclesiastes 6:12*  
***Scripture Reading Challenge:** Ecclesiastes 7 & 8*