

Ecclesiastes: *The Vanity of Life Under the Sun*

Ecclesiastes 8:10-9:10

Introduction

1. The wicked man's funeral
 2. Apparent injustice
- ▶ The Limits of wisdom

❖ Genesis 3:17-19—*cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

3. Death

The wicked man's funeral

❖ **Ecclesiastes 8:10-12**

Though it might appear to go well with the wicked, only the one who fears God who can truly say it is well with my soul.

Apparent injustice

❖ **Ecclesiastes 8:14-15**

Injustice abounds here under the sun and complaining can't change that fact. What is best is for the believer to enjoy the simple graces and pleasures that God grants us while we live here under the sun.

▶ Solomon's reminds us of the limits of wisdom

❖ **Ecclesiastes 8:16-17**

❖ **Ecclesiastes 9:1a**

While wisdom can do so much for us here under the sun, it cannot do everything. It cannot undue the curse. It cannot answer every one of our questions.

Death

❖ **Ecclesiastes 9:1b-3**

1. God is sovereign (1b)



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2. Death come to us all (2)
3. This seems horrible/evil (3a)
4. Man seems to deserve it though (3b)

❖ **Ecclesiastes 9:4-6**

1. The living have hope (4)
2. Its better to live (4-6)

❖ **Ecclesiastes 9:7-10**

1. Eat and drink with gladness (7)
2. Live comfortable, enjoyable lives under the sun (8)
3. Enjoy the beloved that God gives you (9)
4. Enjoy the work you find, and work hard at it (10)