



2021 Pursue Summer Study
 “The Truth Is...”

Principles of Truth From the Life of Solomon
 A Study in Ecclesiastes
 Week 6

Solomon has gone through a major transition in his life. Even from his youth he desired to be a godly leader of his people, and the book of Proverbs identifies his intent. He had the wisdom, but he lacked the experience of living life in a world that doesn't want to follow God. He attempted to rule his kingdom with the principles of wisdom and righteousness but learned over the years that it very difficult to actually convince people to live by those standards. He even couldn't do it for the long term. Eventually, his own human desires lead him away from some of the truths he taught. As he grew older, he began to see the struggle, and it brought him to a place of discouragement about life. But in the end, he did learn that even though we don't do it perfectly, living life in the fear of the Lord with the application

of His wisdom is what makes life bearable and gives us meaning and purpose. Otherwise, life is meaningless and futile, for all men, wise and foolish, die and can't take their accomplishments with them to the grave. So life “under the sun” eventually leaves us empty. But God never intended for life to be meaningless and futile. He desired to give man fullness of life under His leadership. It doesn't appear that Solomon understood that God's intention was to redeem mankind from their futile life “under the sun” by providing a Savior that would redeem them and renew their ability to walk in righteousness and justice. On his own, man is caught in a cycle of sin that leads to failure in living out God's design. This was the frustration Solomon was experiencing. It seemed there was no hope to make things right again because of human sinfulness.

Principle #6: The Truth Is... the fear of God, the wisdom of God, and the significance of life and death are realized in Jesus.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Mathew 12:38-42. How does Jesus compare Himself to Solomon? What does Jesus mean by that?

2. *According to the following verses in Hebrews, what other things is Jesus greater than, and why is He greater? Jesus is greater than... because...*

Hebrews 1:1-13

Hebrews 3:1-6

Hebrews 8:1-6

Hebrews 10:1-14

3. *In what way does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:19-24 and 19:16-23 parallel what Solomon is identifying in Ecclesiastes?*

4. *What does Jesus say about how a person is to be wise? Matthew 7:24-27*

5. *What does Paul say about wisdom?*

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

1 Corinthians 2:12-14

1 Corinthians 3:18-20

Ephesians 5:15-17

2 Timothy 3:15

6. *What does James say about wisdom?*

James 1:5

James 3:13-16

James 3:17

7. *Has the need for wisdom or the use of it changed from the time of Solomon to Jesus?*

8. *How will you apply the principles from the life of Solomon to your own life?*

***“The conclusion when all has been heard is:
fear God and keep His commandments,
because this applies to every person. For
God will bring every act to judgment,
everything which is hidden, whether it is
good or evil.”
Ecclesiastes 12:13-14***

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
