

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 202 – Profit Of The Earth For All Through Enjoying Fruits Of Labor (Ecclesiastes 5:9-20)

1. Who can benefit from the earth [land]?

Everyone, even the king: *“Moreover the profit of the earth is for all: the king himself is served by the field”* (Ecclesiastes 5:9).

- **Genesis 1:29-30, Genesis 9:3, Psalms 104:14-15, and Acts 14:17.**

2. Will people who love silver or abundance ever be satisfied with those things?

No: *“He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity”* (Ecclesiastes 5:10).

- **Ecclesiastes 6:7, Luke 12:15, I Timothy 6:6-10, and Hebrews 13:5-6.**

3. What happens as people gain more earthly possessions?

Their appetite increases: *“When goods increase, they are increased that eat them: and what good is there to the owners thereof, saving the beholding of them with their eyes”* (Ecclesiastes 5:11)?

- **Psalms 62:10, Proverbs 15:27, and Isaiah 56:11.**

4. Who sleeps better, the man that labors or the person of abundance?

The laboring man: *“The sleep of a labouring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep”* (Ecclesiastes 5:12).

- **Only in peace can you sleep well (Psalms 4:5-8, Psalms 127:2, and Proverbs 3:21-24).**

5. Can riches hurt their owners?

Yes: *“There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt”* (Ecclesiastes 5:13).

- **Proverbs 1:32, Luke 12:16-21, Luke 18:18-23, and James 5:1-6.**

6. What good are riches when you come to the end of your physical life?

They do nothing for you: *“(14) But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand. (15) As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand. (16) And this also is a sore evil, that in all points as he came, so shall he go: and what profit hath he that hath laboured for the wind? (17) All his days also he eateth in darkness, and he hath much sorrow and wrath with his sickness”* (Ecclesiastes 5:14-17).

- **Psalms 49:6-8, Proverbs 11:4, Matthew 16:26, and John 6:26-27.**
- Riches come and they GO (**Proverbs 23:5** and **Matthew 6:19-21**).
- You cannot talk anything with you (**Psalms 49:17**).
- Even though one may have wealth, their life can be spent in sorrowful trouble (**Psalms 78:33**).

7. Is it pleasing to God for you to enjoy the fruit of your labors?

Yes, for in death you're not going care about the things of this earth. Thus, enjoy those things now: *"(18) Behold that which I have seen: it is good and comely for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour that he taketh under the sun all the days of his life, which God giveth him: for it is his portion. (19) Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God. (20) For he shall not much remember the days of his life; because God answereth him in the joy of his heart"* (**Ecclesiastes 5:18-20**).

- **Ecclesiastes 2:24, Ecclesiastes 3:12-13, Ecclesiastes 8:15, and I Timothy 6:17.**
- For the faithful, the joy that awaits us in the life to come will fill your heart when you leave this world (**Matthew 13:44, Luke 6:23, I Peter 4:13, and Jude 24**).