

Wisdom is Supreme ... Get All of it You Can

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Wisdom from Ecclesiastes 3:9-14

“Blessed is the man who finds wisdom ... wisdom is more precious than rubies ... with humility comes wisdom ... a man who loves wisdom brings joy ... the rod of correction imparts wisdom ... You, Lord, teach me wisdom in my inmost heart ... the fear of the Lord (respect for God’s realities) is the beginning of wisdom.” (Prov. 3:13, 8:11, 11:2, 29:3, 15 and Psalm 51:6, 111:10) Note in the following questions how Ecclesiastes 3:9-14 points us to our quest for and supreme achievement of wisdom:

- What are you really gaining in life?
- What is your exact burden in life?
- Are you seeing the beauty of God’s work in spite of the climate of the times ... both within your heart and in the world without?
- What eternal hunger have you discovered and sought to fill in your life?
- Are you increasing your humility and brokenness as you more deeply perceive Him Who is “from the beginning” and Who seeks to teach you “the end”?
- Are you “expediting” your comprehension and contentment about your existence and mission for the Messiah?
- In all your activities is your satisfaction growing in your labor, laughter, longings and leisure because you finally see all four of them as a gift from God?
- Do you recognize that everything you allow the Lord to do in your life will last forever ... that He is making you a “total and complete person”?
- Can’t you see that everything happening to you in this fallen world is to teach you to adore, praise, treasure and worship the Lord God?
- Can’t you see that to fear the Lord (respecting His standards of reality) in the right way is to come alive to the splendor of Who He really is, what He is up to in your life, why He is doing it, where and when He is touching your existence and whence all His purposes are leading for earth and heaven?

All of these questions are based on our six verses in *Ecclesiastes* (“The Teacher”). King Solomon was no doubt the main author. His thoughts on wisdom are also dominate in two other books of Scripture, *Proverbs* and *Song of Songs*.

He is probably the sole author of the *Song of Songs*. He passionately writes that the greatest “song of all songs” is “the song” about “love.” Hence, one could easily call Solomon “The Lover”! The third book closely linked with Solomon is *Proverbs*, “The sayings of the wise.” It is obvious that a small circle of wise men wrote it with Solomon taking the lead. A higher, practical, happy and significant life demands wise leaders and wise decisions. Those are the people we should hear, follow, imitate and chose as friends. Such a person we would call “The Leader.”

In these three books all of life’s great issues are summarized before us ... what to teach, how to love and when to lead. The man or woman who nails those three answers conquers their earth life through seeking, struggling and suffering as they reconcile the corruption of sin with

the completeness of God! Those who take up their cross of reality and redemption will discover “The Path” of Messiah Jesus. He is the only One Who will lead them into the significance of His “now” and the splendor of His “eternity”!

Our six verses here are the springboard for our own loving, leading and teaching! They have “taught us” so that we can “teach others” the ultimate questions of life! The chief burden of our being is that God has put eternity into our hearts. We will be empty, drifting, unfilled human beings until we “touch eternity from where we are”! Only Christ Jesus can enable our touch! Remember His words, “And this is eternal life ... that they may know You, Father, the only true God ... and Me also ... Jesus the Messiah ... Whom You have sent.” (John 17:3) It seems obvious that ... we are all called to teach ourselves and others how to touch the eternity that is already been placed within us! We touch eternity when we incarnate and experience Oneness with the Godhead. “Protect them, Holy Father, so that they may be ‘one’ as We are One!” (John 17:11b) “... Father, just as You are in Me and I Am in You ... may they also be in Us ...” (John 17:21b) More great themes in these verses cry out to be explored, but we must limit ourselves for now to the astounding revelation of Ecclesiastes 3:11, “He has set (placed, put, imaged) eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from the beginning to end.”

King Solomon is the Bible’s “pattern man” for each of us as we seek to fathom the eternal hunger our Creator Lord has created and placed within our spirit, soul and body that composes our heart. Solomon is the beloved King David’s chosen son by Bathsheba! What a stunner this is! David’s sexual failure is used to establish Israel’s Messianic future! The Lord God’s special name for Solomon was “Jedediah” ... “beloved of the Lord.” Solomon was destined to be the richest and wisest person who ever lived. His reign began splendidly as he confessed his inadequacies and beseeched the Lord’s help. His gratitude for his father, David, was great and his praise for the God of Israel even greater. Yet life wore him down, temptations overshadowed and failures multiplied. There are many more deep lessons here, but my point is this: Solomon was God’s man to teach us three things about ourselves, our world and our eternal destiny.

His first book: *Song of Solomon*

I experience Messiah’s kind of love ...
as a Young Man in his heart!

His second book: *Proverbs*

I experience Messiah’s kind of wisdom
... as an Adult Warrior in the world!

His third book: *Ecclesiastes*

I experience Messiah’s kind of eternity
... as a Veteran Father for heaven!

- Life begins when we learn the ecstatic fullness of God’s kind of love and never lose it! You live as a “Lover” ... as Jesus was.
- Life is sustained when we learn the overcoming brilliance of God’s kind of wisdom and apply it! You live as a “leader” ... as Jesus was!
- Life’s ending is anticipated when we learn the thrilling worship of God’s kind of eternity ... Himself ... and share it! You live as a “Teacher” ... just as Jesus was!

“Many, LORD, are asking, “Who will bring us prosperity?” Let the light of your face shine on us. You fill my heart with greater joy than when everyone else’s possessions abound! In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety.” (Psalm 4:6-8)