

- c. All Go to One Place (Ecclesiastes 6:6)
  - i. Solomon is either referring to the body or spirit.
  - ii. Spirit
    - 1. The spirit of man (Ecclesiastes 3:21a; 12:7; Acts 7:59)
      - a. Whether saved or lost **the spirit goes to one place**;
      - b. The spirit of man goes back to God which gave it.
    - 2. The spirit of an animal (Ecclesiastes 3:21b)
      - a. The spirit goes to one place;
      - b. It goes back to the earth.
  - iii. Soul (1 Thessalonians 5:23)
    - 1. Man became a living soul (Genesis 2:7)
    - 2. The soul is able to go to hell (Matthew 10:28; Luke 16:19-24)
      - a. It has a tongue
      - b. It can cry
      - c. It can feel
    - 3. The soul is the part of you that will go to its final destination (Psalm 49:15; Mark 8:36-37; Luke 12:20; Luke 23:43)
  - iv. Body (Ecclesiastes 3:20)
    - 1. The body goes to one place
    - 2. For dust we are (Psalm 103:14)
      - a. The body will decompose (Job 19:26)
      - b. And return to the ground (Genesis 3:19)
  - v. If we go by context, it would seem that Solomon is referring to the body (flesh) here, in verse 3 he has just mentioned burial (the grave).

- IV. THE ABUNDANCE OF LABOUR (Ecclesiastes 6:7-9)
- a. For One's Own Hunger (Ecclesiastes 6:7a; Proverbs 16:26)
    - i. He labours for himself,
    - ii. Because his mouth craveth it of him.
    - iii. This individual depicted is not labouring for a family, rather the Bible words it in such a fashion that gives the impression of one who is labouring for himself.
  - b. The Hunger is Not Filled (Ecclesiastes 6:7b; Ecclesiastes 1:8)
    - i. The eye is not satisfied.
    - ii. The ear is not full.
    - iii. The word "*appetite*" appears four times in scripture
      - 1. Each time "*appetite*" is mentioned in scripture it has a connection to being filled with food, or something very similar.
      - 2. The appetite of lions (Job 38:39)
      - 3. The man given to appetite (Proverbs 23:2)
        - a. The reader is admonished to be diligent of what is before him (Proverbs 23:1)
        - b. To not be given to much (Proverbs 23:2)
        - c. To not desire his dainties, because they are deceitful (Proverbs 23:3)
      - 4. The appetite is not full (Ecclesiastes 6:7)
      - 5. The appetite of nations (Isaiah 29:8)
        - a. The Lord pictures those that would fight against Mtn. Zion as the following:
          - i. Like a hungry man dreameth of eating, and yet awakens to find that he is still hungry.
          - ii. Like a thirsty man dreameth of drinking to be filled, and yet awakens to find he is still thirsty.
        - b. The nations that fight against Mtn. Zion will not be filled.
    - iv. Like sin, the unbridled appetite of man is not filled with what it gets.

- c. The Increases of Both the Wise and the Fool (Ecclesiastes 6:8a)
  - i. The wise man and the fool both die (Ecclesiastes 2:14-16)
  - ii. They must both labour for the same things.
  - iii. Both depend upon the labour of themselves and others for their needs.
  - iv. Both must eat and drink to live.
  - v. Both can only eat one meal at a time.
  - vi. The above holds true for a rich man and a poor man. (Ecclesiastes 6:8b)
- d. The Sight of the Eyes and the Wandering of the Desire (Ecclesiastes 6:9)
  - i. Better is the sight of the eyes (Ecclesiastes 6:9a)
    - 1. We note that this would be what they look at with their own eyes.
    - 2. This is something tangible.
  - ii. Than the wandering of the desire (Ecclesiastes 6:9b)
    - 1. Solomon notes that the former is better than the latter.
    - 2. The word “*desire*” came into the English language in the early 13 century, it means “wish, long for” it was also used (in the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century) to mean “lust.”
      - a. Note how God’s people were given up to their “own heart’s lust” (Psalm 81:12)
      - b. This was nothing new, it was seen as far back as Genesis (Genesis 6:5)
      - c. We see this played out in the Children of Israel (Jeremiah 7:21-24)
      - d. We see this played out in the hearts of people today (Romans 1:21)
      - e. We need to cast down those vain imaginations of the heart (2 Corinthians 10:5, see context) – “Imagination(s)” – “faculty of the mind which forms and manipulates images”
    - 3. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit (Ecclesiastes 6:9c)

- V. THE ABUNDANCE OF VANITY (Ecclesiastes 6:10-12)
  - a. That Which Hath Been is Named (Ecclesiastes 6:10a)
    - i. Man – Adam (Genesis 2:7)
      - 1. His dignity – He (Adam) was made in the image of God.
      - 2. His fall – He sinned against his Maker.
      - 3. His recovery Christ – The last Adam was the Lord from heaven, and a quickening Spirit.
    - ii. Christ **is named** above all things (Ephesians 1:21)
      - 1. It's because of Christ that we have life
      - 2. It's because of the last Adam that we have a home in heaven.
  - b. Man May Not Be Able to Contend With His Maker (Ecclesiastes 6:10b)
    - i. Job did not think so (Job 9:1-3, 32)
    - ii. Elihu (a friend of Job, and the youngest of the group), believed God greater than man (Job 33:12-13)
    - iii. Man should fear to strive with God (Isaiah 45:9-10)
    - iv. God hath made all things by His own hand (Isaiah 66:1-2; Romans 9:19-20)
    - v. Are we stronger (“mightier”) than the Lord (1 Corinthians 10:22)
    - vi. The answer would be a resounding, NO!! In fact, the Lord speaks in Isaiah how the nations are no more than “as a drop of a bucket.” (Isaiah 40:15)
  - c. The Much Increase of Vanity (Ecclesiastes 6:11)
    - i. There is much that adds vanity and heartache to this life, even in the things of pleasure of this life, there is still toils and troubles connected to those very things.
    - ii. Apart from God, this life has no hope. (Ephesians 2:12; 1 Timothy 1:1)
  - d. Who knoweth what is good (Ecclesiastes 6:12a)
    - i. You?
      - 1. We certainly cannot direct our own ways (Jeremiah 17:9)
      - 2. We need the help of God (Jeremiah 17:10)
        - a. The ways that man many times deem good are often evil, and the things that he deems evil are many times good.

- b. It is better to leave the decision of the path up to God.
  - ii. Government?
    - 1. Peter and John's experience with the council (Acts 5:26-29)
    - 2. From the above experience of Peter and John, one sees how government and governing bodies are not always right.
  - iii. God?
    - 1. The Lord knows better than anyone what is best for your life (Psalm 37:23-24)
    - 2. The Lord does not sleep on the job, or let you down (Psalm 121:3, 8)
    - 3. In fact every man living needs their Creator to direct their path (Jeremiah 10:23)
- e. Who knoweth what is after him (Ecclesiastes 6:12b)
  - i. Your life is a shadow (Psalm 39:5; 102:11; 144:4; James 4:14)
  - ii. What will happen when you're gone?
    - 1. What about:
      - a. Wife/or husband?
      - b. Children?
      - c. Friends?
      - d. And others?
    - 2. For men, it is your job to make sure that your family, wife, and those that depend upon you, are taken care of, even after you're gone.
      - a. David thought so much of this that he spoke unto his son Solomon and prepared for the day that he would be gone. (1 Chronicles 22:5-19; 29:10-11, 19)
      - b. Solomon thought so much of this that he wrote the book of Proverbs. (Proverbs 1:7-9)
    - 3. While man is alive he wants to know what is before him, when man dies he wants to know what will be after him.
    - 4. God knows all things, He knows what is before us (1 John 3:20)