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McInteer Sermon Outlines - Ecclesiastes

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WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM LIFE?

Ecc. 2:1-3

I. Years ago, via Annual Lessons, there was a study made of it. I want to reap the benefits of this 1938 story and share it with you.

II. We begin with extracts from Solomon's writings.

A. It was thought to have been written at or near the close of his 40-year reign.

B. God gave him the time, resources to try virtually every scheme possible.

1. He did not make a cruise!

2. He did have wine, women and song.

3. This was about 975 B.C.

4. Solomon's opening prayer as he began was modest indeed. God greatly enhanced it.

I Kings 3:10-13 read.

5. Yet Solomon backslid - I Kings 11:1-13.

6. Toward end of his life he recognized his mistakes.

Ecc. 1:14-18

7. Contrast this with Paul.

Phil. 3:7-11

Gal. 6:14

Phil. 3:17

Phil. 4:9

III. Solomon on "Good Time" living.

- A. He had everything at his command.
- B. Only drawback--his capacity.
- C. Nature sets a limit on what we can endure.
- D. He was surrounded with every luxury--for a season.

Heb. 11:24-25

Gal. 6:8

- 1. To continue in this is to have a burned out body.
- 2. Fortunately he called a halt to this dissipation.
- E. V-3 he avoided drunkenness.
 - 1. Knowingly tried it all.
 - 2. Wanted to pass on experience.
 - 3. He alone could try it all and make his report--no one else could do it.

IV. Things that were tried:

- A. Built palaces (I Kings 7:1-12).
 - 1. Irrigation system.
 - 2. Parks
 - 3. Gardens
 - 4. Servants to do the work and I can't even get my hedge trimmed.
 - 5. Flocks, herds
 - 6. Silver
 - 7. Singers

8. Instruments of music
9. Taxed the people.
10. Got whatever he wanted
11. All vanity - empty!
12. Became sour, dissolutioned.

V. 17-19

Ecc. 12:13-14

B. Here is the story of experience.

V. Now hear Paul.

Rom. 6:17-18

A. Pattern

1. Word "Tupos."
2. Mold into which hot metal is poured.
3. Gospel our mold.
4. Obedience to it delivered from slavery of sin.
5. Comes from the heart.

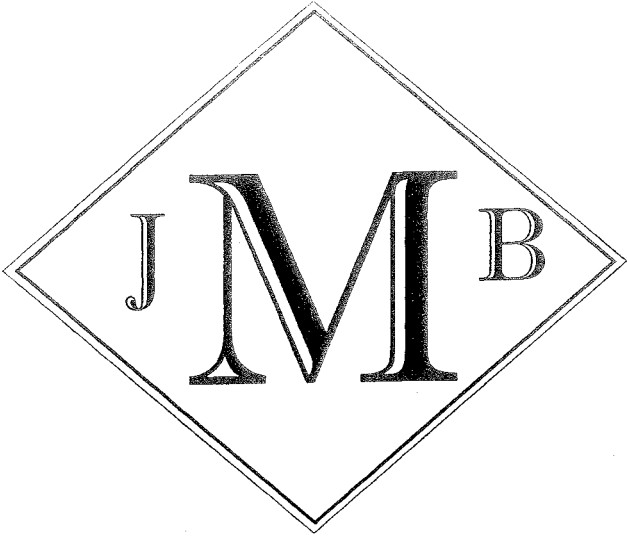
B. Wages

Rom. 6:19-23

1. We are to serve God.
2. Avoid uncleanness.
3. Iniquity= lawlessness

Rom. 12:1

4. Follow pattern of righteousness.
5. Wages vs. free gift.
6. No man has a right to abuse God's laws.



WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO MAKE YOU
HAPPY?

/Ecc. 2:1-11

- I. Haven't we been drinking a various wells seeking happiness? *"ran experiment - proved"*
- A. Tell of Solomon-man who ran quantlet.
1. Facts of his live.
 - a. Means place or peaceable
 - b. David's 10th son, 2nd via Bethsheba
 - c. 3rd King, reigned 40 yrs.
 - d. Other name Jedidiah "beloved of the Lord" received unusual gifts
 - e. Know little of early life
 - f. Possessed great advantages yet to fail: undisputed possession of throne, stores of wealth laid up by David, imported mental power. love of the people-yet sensuality made him a cast away.
 - g. Built Israil's glory as never before, wrote 1005 songs, 3000 proverbs.
 - h. Fault lay in trip to Egypt for wife & daughter of Pharach on David's throne must shock!
 - i. Next came harem-700 wives 300 concubines-polggamy, false Gods & his own worship of them.
 - j. Old at 60-never wrote penitential ps. no sobs for his sin, no plea for pardon.

longford Ery
Clip.

Repton
Driall
→

DANCE
CLIP
→

Purpose was to see
was there any good in these things.

II. "All rivers ran into Solomon's Sea"

A. Business Tycoon *deliberately exposed until yet had self-centred to stop any time*

1. Construction r-4 "I builded me houses"

A. Temple *Settish pleasure*

- 1. Had 100,000 talents of gold, 1 million of silver, brass w/o weight, iron for nails & coupleings w/o weight, timber, heron stones & precious stones in abundance. Cost estimated 2 to 5 billion in our money.

b. His own house took 13 yrs. plus temples to foreign gods, store cities, for treases, summer homes.

2. Farming v-4 "I planted me vineyards"

- a. word for garden-paradise
- b. Pools-perhaps about Bethlehem 500x200x30'
- c. Herds and flocks-man's made to gloridy God, not fine the end of living in possessions.

B. Wealth - Surpassed *all Kings etc with JK. 10:23*

Rations per do.
to fat bees
20 pasture fed
100 sheep +
100000
10: Duck
bird
100000
390" meat
perhaps
54,000

1. Annual income 666 talents of gold-20 million (Talent -\$32,640.00)

2. Cargo of ship-18½ million (Ikg 9:26-28)

Soviet report

3. Queen sheba gave 120 talents (Ikg 10:10)

She had "no life in her" "she fainted said Clark → 300 @ \$1800 ea.

4. He made shields of gold, throne of wary overlaid (gold, vessels gold Ikg 10) 200 bucklers gold @ 60000 ea.

5. Silver as abundant as stones I Kg. 10:27-9 → Considered of no value

b. brought licentious practices of sex & whiskey plus importance ascribed

- C. Honor *Every man dwell under own vine & fig tree.*
1. In wisdom v-9 "so I was great *tree.*"
 2. Accomplished, finished his task
 3. Men servants & arts (men singers)

to delight "sons of men" v. 8 - *usually hid dances*
 III. Conclusion *benley "mistakes galore?"*
 Ecc 2:11 "Behold all was vanity & a vexation of spirit. - *worthless, chasing after wind,*
 Ecc 12:13 "Fear God & keep His c. *93in*"

*Joseph said had 1000 chariots, 20000 horses,
 in verse 8 riders young, comely, tall, well-mate,
 long flowing hair, wore purple tunics,
 powdered their hair & gold dust, glittered in sun.*

Sex - Sanity - Salary - Sin - had it all

Wester 6/2/59
 [Redacted]

Rednor 6/2/59
Hendersonville 6/25/59
Lewisburg 9/12/59
 [Redacted]

Woodburn Ky 9/17/59
 [Redacted]

4th Ave 10/29/59
Bethel Ku 11/19/59
Trinity Lane 6/25/60
 [Redacted]

Southside Ft. Worth Tex. 11/19/61
Oakland 9/29/62

Jangling Phone vs. Screaming Jet

Longford, England—Villagers of Longford scored a triumph over the jet age. The Transport Ministry denied Pan American World Airways permission to start a jet flight to New York from London Airport at 1:30 a.m. daily. Villagers, whose homes are in line with runway No. 1, warned that each time a screeching jet waked them at 1:30 a.m., they would reach for their telephones, call air-lines and Ministry officials at home to protest.

4 Whites

(Continued From Page One)

bles containing the four white men pulled up alongside.

At shotgun point the white men demanded that the two Negro girls get into their car. One of the Negro girls broke and ran and succeeded in getting away. The four drove off with the other girls into a wooded area several miles west of the campus. All four raped her, one of them twice.

In Shock

The two Negro men, Thomas Butterfield and Richard Brown, both of Miami, called the sheriff's office and Slappey and a part-time deputy, Joe Cook, started out in different cars in response to the call. Cook came upon the car with the four men and the Negro girl in it.

With the aid of other officers summoned to the scene by radio, he brought them to the county jail.

The Negro girl was taken to Florida A&M Hospital, where examination showed she had been raped. She was reported suffering from shock.

Slappey said the four white men appeared to have been drinking heavily.

Tallahassee, Fla. — (AP) — A Negro coed from Florida A&M University was kidnaped and raped at gunpoint by four white men here early today after a college dance.

Deputy Sheriff W. W. Slappey seized the four men involved, who were arrested a short time later with the gagged and hysterical girl still in their car.

Asst. Atty. William Hopkins was questioning the four in Leon County Jail and announced that rape charges would be filed against all four.

Three of the men were listed as Patrick G. Scarborough, 20, a Tallahassee man reported AWOL from Fort Fisher, N. C. Air Base; William Collinworth, 24, a telephone company lineman from Tallahassee; and David Ervin Hayes, 18, a Tallahassee high school student.

Juvenile

The fourth was a 18-year-old former high school student whose name was withheld.

Slappey gave this account of the case:

Two Negro couples from Florida A&M were parked in an automobile near the campus about 2:30 a.m. when an automa-

(Continued on Page 2, Column 7)

is 9.3 seconds a hundred yards, which is the world's record for the hundred yard dash—heretofore recorded only by Americans.

WHEN NOBODY'S LISTENING

WHEN two gentlemen bump into each other in an elevator or revolving door, one will say, "I beg your pardon." The other will say, "Excuse me, please."

But when these same "gentlemen" get behind the wheel of a high-powered car, their word exchanges are more apt to be like this: "Get out of the way, you road hog!" and "Who do you think you are?"

EVERY RESTAURANT operator is familiar with the patrons who ask that the steak leavings be put in a bag "for the dog."

Recently, where we were eating, the small boy in the family involved piped up in a shrill and excited voice, "Oh boy, now we gotta get a dog!" » »

ANOTHER RUSSIAN RECORD

THE MOSCOW Radio announced a few days after Joseph Stalin's funeral in 1953 that five million Russians filed past his bier in 72 hours. That means, according to the calculations, that the mourners, two abreast, three and one-third feet apart, traveled past the bier at twenty-two miles per hour. Twenty-two miles per hour

TO FAST DRIVERS

DON'T START today on your vacation trip planned for tomorrow, and drive to get there yesterday.

—Anna L. Hertzog.

A DO-IT-YOURSELFER fixed a cuckoo clock, and now it backs out and says, "What time is it?"

New Prohibition Law

BY 1965 or 1970, there will be a new law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors," declares Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, head of the Department of Clinical Sciences at the University of Illinois. "Because," the eminent Dr. Ivy continues, "alcoholics are on the increase. One out of nine persons who drink becomes an alcoholic, and when an average of one in every family becomes an alcoholic, which at the present rate of increase will occur from 1965



The Poet's Corner

THE CASKET OF THE HEART

BY PATIENCE STRONG

Like pearls locked in a casket,
We hide the past away,
The joys, the hopes, the raptures,
The griefs of yesterday.
The gems of recollection—
We keep them secretly.
But there is one most precious,
A Mother's memory.

Time robs us of our treasures,
And slowly we forget.
But the name of Mother
Is like a jewel set
In deep and dear remembrance
From all the rest apart,
The brightest of the jewels
In the casket of the heart.

From writings of Patience Strong, England.

to 1970, the people will revolt, and the traffic will be voted out."

Dr. Ivy, an alcoholism-prevention educator, divides the United States roughly into three groups:

1. The 40 million abstainers.

2. The 8 million alcoholics (the worst advertising the liquor industry has).

3. The 52 million Americans who are now moderate drinkers.

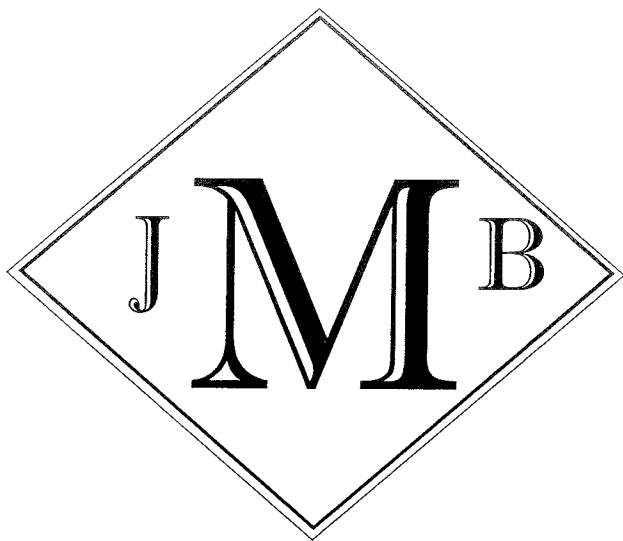
"The last group," Dr. Ivy states, "are the people who are the real problem. They are 'on the way' and setting a devastating example before their children."

There are about 500,000 Americans dying each year from alcoholism, according to Dr. Ivy, but there are "200,000 new ones over and above the number who die.

"Until educators allow complete scientific facts about alcohol to be given to America's youth, this country faces a moral, social, economical, and political crisis of devastating proportions. I regard total abstinence as the sensible, clear-cut attitude to be adopted by everyone who believes in the greatness and beauty of life."

THE AMERICAN system of free enterprise is everyone's business. Its success may be a matter of life or death to everyone. It will survive only so long as everyone of us strives sincerely and understandingly to improve and perfect it » »

—Carl Helm.



LIGHT FOR TODAY, BUT DARKNESS AWAITS

Ecc. 11:7-10

- I. One of the ~~hard realities~~ realities of life is that nothing here lasts forever.
 - A. For long is the battle of preservation - the Morgan Cemetery in ruins.
 - B. I was teethered on the experience of the "foretaste of Heaven."
 - C. Sister Prosser said, "Thank you for enjoying my meal - in 4 hrs. you'll want me again."
- II. To maintain balance between time & eternity is the evidence of intelligence. Our Ecc. passage dramatically sets it before us. Let's read the text.
 - A. Truly, the Light is sweet.
 1. It's for our enjoyment even if temporary.
 2. Delights of the body tho will soon end.
 - B. Behold the Sun.
 1. This means enjoy life.
 2. Life is worth living.
 3. Man's duty to enjoy it.
 4. Egyptian custom to carry figure of corpse among guests at banquet - not to dampen pleasure, but to give zest to the enjoyment of the present.
 5. Also encouragement to keep things under control.
 6. Ky. Hi used to erect crosses on 31W where people died.
 - C. Rejoice in all the years if they be many even.
 1. Value in rational enjoyment.
 2. Have pleasure to the full - such as God allows.
 3. God's never demanded an abolition of pleasure and a welcoming of suffering.

III. Then Comes the "But."

A. But let him remember.

- 1. Bauth calls it the Great But.
- 2. This life is not the end of everything - there is a later existence.
- 3. We do well to remember - thus we check the indulgences of time by pointing to eternity.

B. Days of Darkness.

- 1. Earlier shown how to live - now shows how to die
- 2. Life can't be eternal sunshine.
- 3. We'll spend more time in the earth (grave) than on it.

IV. Now he moves to address Youth.

A. Rejoice.

- 1. "Let heart cheer thee."
- 2. "Walk in the ways of thy heart."
- 3. "Walk in the sight of thine eyes."
- 4. Won't you do enough of this w/o "encouragement"

B. What does this mean.

- 1. Does he speak sarcastically.
- 2. Irony like:

1 Kings 18:27 "And it came to pass at noon that Elijah

1 Kings 22:15 "So he came to the king. And the king

- 3. But we must not remove the fact of rejoicing - it's God intended.

a.) God gives us all things to enjoy.

1 Tim. 6:17 "Charge them that are rich in this world

b.) Religion does not turn life into an oppressive yoke.

Trust the living God who giveth us really

c.) But don't go to extremes.

d.) "Youth at the prow
Pleasure at the helm."

e.) Danger of youth not on side of defect but
excess. *Remember all commandments do them*

f.) God doesn't invite indulgences. *see not heart-eyes*

Rom. 13:14 "But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and

Nu. 15:39 "And it shall be unto you for a fringe, th

g.) Great to look in the sunny face of youth, a
sweet companion, all in bounding health.

h.) Don't look for dark side of life.

C. Youth study.

1. Two words - one used only here in O.T.

2. Childhood, boyhood and

3. Lit. the dawn of the day.

4. This adolescence or boyhood & full growth
youth.

5. Close to black hard, thus time of black hair.

Lev. 13:31 "And if the priest look on the plague and

C. Face the thoughts of Judgement & preparation
for it. *but the lord weigheth the spirits*

Prov. 16:2 "All the ways of a man are clean in his c

1. Don't attempt to prolong youth beyond its time.

2. Judgement is a powerful check.

3. Youth's shortness & judgement's certainty two
reasons for restraint.

Phil. 3:18-19 "(For many walk, of whom I have tol

Rom. 8:6 "For to be carnally minded is death; but to

4. It's God that calls us to judgement. He's divin

5. Our judgement is individual - not by mass.

Life & Peace

2 Cor. 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.

6. It's certain.

Heb. 12:23 "To the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are written in heaven.

2 Pet. 2:9 "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to keep the ungodly.

7. We are bounded by a time line not far from any of us.

8. God judges us every moment.

9. He reserves day of accounting for all.

10. Conscience tells us we are responsible beings.

D. Prepare & Reform.

1. Sorrow.

a.) Remove any disorder or perturbation from the mind.

b.) Vexation or provocation.

c.) Bitter - low spirits, moroseness, discontent.

2. Evil.

a.) Don't defile c intemperate, unclean, fleshly lusts.

b.) Take proper care of body.

c.) Evil is moral study.

2 Cor. 7:1 "Having therefore these promises, dearly

d.) Sin brings weakness & decay.

e.) It arouses anger of God.

f.) Evil habits bring penalty of body.

3. Thus acquire what time can't erase.

hest End 2-26-84

"NOBODY'S BUSINESS BUT MINE"

I have blue eyes, thick black hair, and my skin is like alabaster. That's what my mother says, anyway. I was born on Memorial Day 7 years ago. My mother used to say, "How could I ever forget you Cindy? You didn't have to choose a holiday for a birthday!" Then she would laugh and hold me close, and kiss me gently on the cheek.

But I guess I'm pretty lucky at that. Some kids' folks just put up with them, but mine really loves me. Mama rocks me and when I don't feel well, she sits beside me and holds my hand. Sometimes she sings to me, that song: "Hush-a-bye and good night, may the angels watch o'er thee." I like to listen to her. She sings so pretty.

But there isn't anyone to play with at our house. Mommy and daddy would like to have another little girl that looks like me. I know they would, for I have heard them talk before, so many times. But then, whenever they get through talking mama holds me close again and when she takes her face away, she leaves my face wet, because she always cries. There is alot I just don't understand.

I can feel warmth upon my body, and I can feel a slight breeze as I lie on my mat out on the patio. Mama is close by; I can hear her singingbut she doesn't do that as much as she use to. I feel something soft against my side. I think I heard daddy call it a kitten. I wish I knew what a kitten is, I wish I could see it, but I never will, you see.....I am blind.

There are voices laughing, nearby i can hear dogs barking and I listen to roller skates going up and down the sidewalk. I wish I could run and play too. But I never will because I can't stand on my legs or I can't even walk.

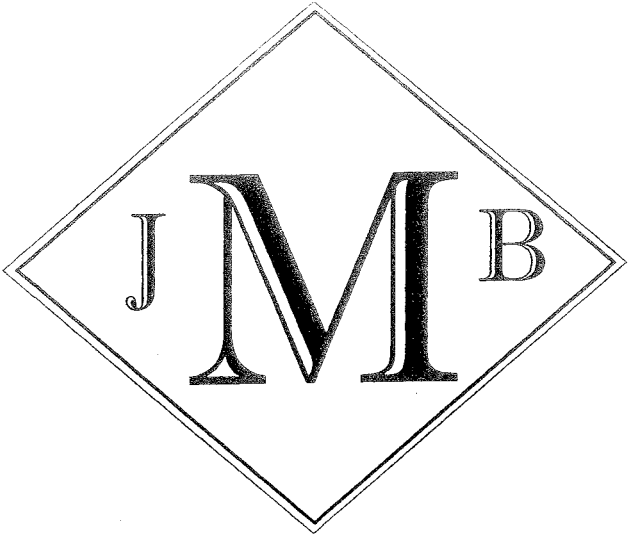
Time kinda drags along. Once mama said "happy Birthday, sweetheart." I felt something cold and wet and sweet on my tongue, they said it was ice cream. But I had a little trouble swallowing the cake. I thought I was doing well, but I noticed Mama's cheek was wet again when she kissed me.

After my bath, I wear something called a sweater and warm tights cover my legs. A blanket covered me and I was very comfortable. I wish I could tell mama and daddy how much I love them, but I never will, you see, I can't talk.

I like it when its cold outside. People come to our house and they sound so happy. They even talk of snow, and about making a snowman. I wonder what he would look like. Mama told me "Cindy, I would give anything in this world, if we could just build a snowman together."

Daddy comes home from work and plays with me. He rubs my tired back and it feels so good. Sometimes he tickles me and I try real hard to laugh, but I don't know how. I do wish that I could sit up, but I never

will because my head won't stay up. We go for rides to the doctor, they exercise my arms and legs and it hurts so much. I cry at home alot now. I sometimes stiffen and jerk when it's so hard for me to breathe. Mama stays with me all the time now. I heard mama and daddy say the other day that I would be going away soon. But I don't want to go, I love them and want to stay with them. Mama holds me alot now and kisses me all the time. Lately she has been saying "LSD...LSD...how could I ever have been so stupid?" Mama cries alot, but maybe mamas are like that. I wonder what "birth defects" are (Via White Oak Newsletter, Chattanooga, TN.)



I WANT TO BE HAPPY

Ecc.12

I. Is the above statement wrong--or is it proper to want to be happy?

A. God does not want us miserable.

B. God wants us to have happiness where it can be found?

1. Movies

2. Drinking

3. Gambling--all these fail.

II. Let's seek it God's way. (Ecc.12)

Solomon the great experimenter.

A. In Possessions

1. Richest man on earth.

a) Silver as stones.

b) Gold plentiful.

2. Wrote:

Ecc. 5:12 "The sleep of a laboring man is sweet..."

Luke 12:15

B. In Pleasures

1. Solomon all forms of entertainment.

2. Parks, lakes, wine, women.

3. Rather fear God and keep his comm.

C. Worldly honor and fame.

1. No one else had what Solomon had.

2. Half not told.

D. Via Knowledge

1. Education ?
2. Go to school for fun of it?
3. Solomon wisest man on earth.
4. Knowledge grows more vast daily.

1 Cor. 13:2-3

Much study is a weariness.

5. Word "duty" in italics.

E. Obedience

Jer. 10:23 "It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."

1 John 5:3 " His commands are not grievous."

1. Garden of Eden - two commands-- one positive, one negative.
 - a) Dress and keep garden.
 - b) Refrain from tree of knowledge of good and evil.
 - c) Happy while obeying.
 - d) Disobey - driven out.
2. Noah had to build ark to escape.
3. Josh.6 - circle city 13 times.
4. 2 Kings 5 - tell story.
 - V.13 - Wash and be clean.
 - a) Obeyed
 - b) Seven dips
5. John 9 - obey command
6. Psalm 1:1-3
7. The obedient are serene.

1 Cor. 2:9 "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard..."

Isaiah 64:4

