

H2H Questions – Week of Sunday, October 25, 2020 Ecclesiastes 4

Get to Know Me

1. Which is your preference; being alone or around people? Why?

Into the Bible

- 2. In the first three verses of this chapter, Solomon examines a sad reality of our world; those with power often oppress those with no power, and in most cases, there is no one who can correct the injustices in this life. What do we learn from the following verses that might give us a more hopeful outlook than that of Solomon's?
 - a. Psalm 43:1
 - b. Psalm 103:6
 - c. Micah 2:1-3
 - d. 1 Thessalonians 4:6
- 3. In verses four through six, Solomon considers three types of people who labor. Verse four is the one who works hard and skillfully to achieve but ends up envied and hated by his neighbor. Verse five is the lazy man who destroys his own life. And verse six is the one who is content to have what he needs instead of spending all his time and energy to have more. What would you say is the solution to the problem that Solomon is observing here?
- 4. Verses seven and eight tell us about a man who works non-stop to gain more and more yet has no-one that he loves to share it with, or even leave it to when he's gone. Solomon calls this vanity (as he has many other things) but also a grave misfortune. Why do you think he sees this kind of life even more empty and unfortunate than the others?



- 5. Seeing the emptiness of the "lone-wolf" approach to life led Solomon to consider the value of friendship. List and discuss the advantages that he shares about living life with a companion from verses nine through twelve.
- 6. The last four verses of the chapter tell a story about a man who goes from humble beginnings to achieve great wealth, status, and popularity. At first glance we might think that such a story is admirable, yet Solomon calls even this vanity. Check out these two verses that warn about living our life seeking the admiration of man.
 - a. Luke 9:25
 - b. Galatians 1:10

Application

- 7. Solomon warns about the life that is lived as a "lone wolf." How can we as Christians guard against trying to live our lives in Christ as "lone wolves?"
- 8. Back at the end of verse twelve Solomon, in talking about companionship, tagged on a statement saying, "And a threefold cord is not quickly broken." How can we apply this idea to our relationships today?