



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
August 6, 2006

Life Gone Wild

desert breeze community church

“LOST”

(Ecclesiastes 1:1-18)

THE MAN: Verses 1, 12

(1) Conceived out of adultery. (2 Sam. 11)

(2) Appointed as King by his father David on his death bed. Commanded by his father to live in careful obedience to the Scriptures. (1 Kings 2:1-4)

(3) God granted Solomon one wish for anything he desired.

(4) He chose wisdom, which so pleased God that He gave him a 40 year reign as the wisest, wealthiest, and most powerful man in the history of the earth. (1 Kings 3)

THE MISSION: Verses 13, 16

(1) Because of Solomon's great wisdom, wealth and power (qualifications v16), he devotes himself to searching out the purpose of life (quest v13).

(2) Early in life the young King begins to make foolish choices in spite of his wisdom. (1 Kings 3:2-4; 1 Kings 11:3-13; 1 Kings 11:3-13)

(3) Bored and burned out at the end of a twisted life with a head full of wisdom and a heart full of grief he writes in repentance to God and warning to us.

THE MADNESS:

Verses 2-3 Life apart from God (under the sun) is meaningless.

Verse 4 Generations come and go with very little change.

Verses 5-7 Even nature is a boring predictable rut never making progress slowly eroding away.

Verse 8 Seeking new experiences (new job, car, home, spouse) will not bring lasting satisfaction.

Verses 9-10 Most new things are simply old things that were forgotten that have been rediscovered.

Verse 11 We are but blips on the radar screen of life soon to be forgotten.

Verses 14-15 Everything is broken and we can't fix it because we are broken.

Verses 17-18 Increased human knowledge apart from God only highlights our brokenness without giving answers.

THE MESS: Rom. 8:18-23

(1) Mankind was created by God for relationship and rulership. (Gen. 1:26-28)

(2) We broke relationship with God, therefore compromising our rulership on earth. (Gen. 3:1-19)

(3) Our being ruled by life (Our being lost!) rather than ruling life is the result of our broken relationship with God. Which should drive us to Christ. (Gen. 3:15; Rom. 5:12-21; 1 Cor. 15:21-22)

THE MESSIAH: Matt. 1:21 (Matt. 12:42; Luke 19:10; John 10:10, 14:6; Gal. 3:13; 1 Cor. 1:30)

(1) Jesus came to reverse the curse if we'll give our lives to Him.

(2) He begins by establishing His Kingdom rule in our hearts (1st coming) and eventually extending it throughout the earth (2nd coming).

Next weekend: “The Pursuit of Happiness” (Eccl. 2:1-26)



Growing

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1) Who is the writer and what is his background? (vv.1, 12) (1 Kings 2:1-3, 1 Kings 4) What is his quest and qualifications? (vv.13, 16)

2) What is your reaction to the theme (or thesis) of the book, which Solomon states in verses 2-3? Put the theme of this book in your own words.

3) What examples does the writer give in vv.4-11, 14-18 to prove his thesis? From his examples which one(s) seem the most obvious to you?

4) In what ways do you sense that people around you live with a sense of despair? Why is this world such a mess and so frustrating? (Gen. 3:1-19; Rom. 8:18-23)

5) What did Jesus come to do? (Luke 19:10; John 14:6; John 10:10) What is an area of struggle in your life that has recently seemed futile or meaningless? Ask God for a renewed sense of his vision for your life that transcends "life under the sun" and look to Him for the resources to bring hope to your situation.