

ECCLESIASTES

It All Goes Back in the Box

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

More & More

"Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income."

Ecclesiastes 5:10

Don't be fooled by the myth of _____.

Loved & Lost

"I have seen a grievous evil under the sun: wealth hoarded to the harm of its owners, or wealth lost through some misfortune, so that when they have children there is nothing left for them to inherit. Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb, and as everyone comes, so they depart."

Ecclesiastes 5:13-15

"If there is anything worse than the addiction money brings, it is the emptiness it leaves."

Derek Kidner

The Gifts & the Giver

"Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil – this is a gift of God."

Ecclesiastes 5:19

The _____ will never satisfy until you're satisfied in the _____.

Reflection:

1. Think of a time you *really* wanted something. How satisfied were you when you got it? And how long did that last?
2. In what ways do you think Affluenza has infected our broader culture? To what extent has it infected you?
3. How does the certainty of death – and the promise of eternity – shift your perspective on material wealth?
4. Reflect on Randy Alcorn's paraphrase of these verses from his book **The Treasure Principle**: *The more you have,*
 - the more you want (v. 10).
 - the less you're satisfied (v. 10).
 - the more people will come after it (v. 11).
 - the more you realize it does you no good (v. 11).
 - the more you have to worry about (v. 12).
 - the more you can hurt yourself by holding on to it (v. 13).
 - the more you have to lose (v. 14).
 - the more you'll leave behind (v. 15).
5. What would it look like for you to enjoy all of the gifts God has given in a way that best honors the Giver?

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