



WARNER PACIFIC COLLEGE

■ FLOURISH

Meaning

Ecclesiastes 1:2 "Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless."

Ecclesiastes 1:14 I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

Ecclesiastes 2:1 I thought in my heart, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good." But that also proved to be meaningless.

Ecclesiastes 2:11 Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.

Ecclesiastes is a backwards approach to life and wisdom. The author is an old man looking back on the events of his life. The book subtly asks us to look at the goals and values of our life. If hard work, riches, and pleasures all fade away in the end, where is it that we can find lasting value?

Some very meaningful/important things, when placed next to that which is exponentially more meaningful/important, seem comparatively meaningless. King Solomon was not the last person to look at the fullness of life, death, and the seasons of our lives and conclude that the meagerness of our everyday seems comparatively meaningless next the ultimate concerns.

So many activities in our lives seem important in the moment but then we compare them to the atrocities on the news or the life altering trials of a dear friend. We conclude that our activities were not as meaningful as we first assumed. These worldview altering moments bring us a valuable perspective. They cause us to be more grateful, more patient, and more content.

Ecclesiastes is the biblical book of wise perspective. It calls us to think deeply about where we place our time, effort, faith, and trust.

Point for Prayer:

How do the actions, events, people and places of your life provide ultimate value and meaning for you? If they do not, what needs to change?