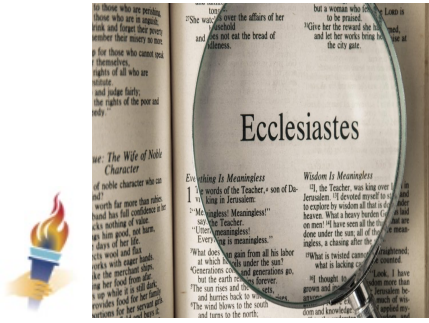


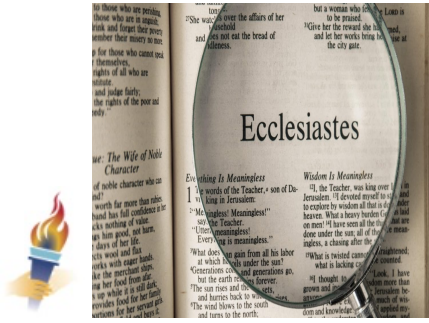
Chapter 7-part 8 Wisdom in the House of Mourning - Pastor Anthony Nicholson.  
 Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

<p><b>Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author: Solomon.</li> <li>• Written: 10th Century BC.</li> <li>• Theme, The futility of life without God.</li> <li>• Writing style, Pessimism.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Ecclesiastes 7:1-6(NKJV)</b>  <b>The Value of Practical Wisdom</b>  <b>7</b> A good name <i>is</i> better than precious ointment,      And the day of death than the day of one's birth;  <b>2</b> Better to go to the house of mourning      Than to go to the house of feasting,      For that <i>is</i> the end of all men;      And the living will take <i>it</i> to heart.  <b>3</b> Sorrow <i>is</i> better than laughter,      For by a sad countenance the heart is made better.  <b>4</b> The heart of the wise <i>is</i> in the house of mourning, But the heart of fools <i>is</i> in the house of      mirth.  <b>5</b> <i>It is</i> better to hear the rebuke of the wise      Than for a man to hear the song of fools.  <b>6</b> For like the crackling of thorns under a pot,      So <i>is</i> the laughter of the fool.      This also is vanity.</p>	
<p><b>Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 (NKJV)</b>  <b>Everything Has Its Time</b>  <b>3</b> To everything <i>there is</i> a season,      A time for every purpose under heaven:  <b>2</b> A time to be born,      And a time to die;      A time to plant,      And a time to pluck <i>what is</i> planted;</p>	



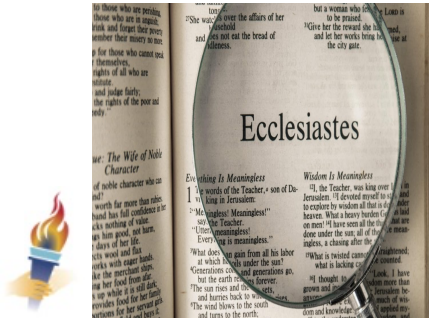
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<p><b><u>Materialism is a philosophical view that holds that matter is the only or fundamental reality and that all things, including mental states and consciousness, are causally dependent upon or reducible to physical processes.</u></b>  <u>materialism is a form of monism, which means that there is only one kind of substance or thing in the universe. Materialism also implies a preoccupation with or emphasis on material objects, comforts, and considerations, with a disinterest in or rejection of spiritual, intellectual, or cultural values.</u></p>	
<p>"The more you desperately want to be rich, the more poor and unworthy you feel, regardless of how much money you actually make." - Mark Manson</p> <p>"No one is impressed with your possessions as much as you are." - Morgan Housel</p> <p>"Materialism is the only form of distraction from true bliss." - James Turrell</p>	
<p>"Materialism coarsens and petrifies everything, making everything vulgar, and every truth false." - Henri Frederic Amiel</p> <p>"Individually, people are finding that a simpler lifestyle provides greater satisfaction than the relentless pursuit of materialism." - Laurance Rockefeller</p>	
<p>Psalm 118:8 (NKJV)  <sup>8</sup> <i>It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in man.</i></p>	
<p><b>Three Principles in a Christian life...</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sorrow is better than laughter.</li> <li>2. Sin has distorted god's design.</li> <li>3. The Gospel restores us.</li> </ol>	



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<p><b>1.SORROW IS BETTER THAN LAUGHTER.</b></p> <p>Psalm 23:4 (NKJV)        4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.</p>	
<p><b>2. SIN HAS DISTORTED GOD’S DESIGN</b></p> <p>Romans 3:23 (NKJV)  <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.</p>	
<p>Romans 6:12-13(NKJV)  <sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. <sup>13</sup> And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.</p>	
<p><b>PROPITIATION...</b>  <b>TO APPEASE A GOD,</b>  <b>SPIRIT OR PERSON.</b></p>	
<p><b>3. THE GOSPEL RESTORES US BACK TO LIFE.</b></p> <p>Romans 3:25(NKJV)  <sup>25</sup> whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,</p>	
<p>1 John 4:10(NKJV)  <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son <i>to be</i> the propitiation for our sins.</p>	



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<p>Hebrews 2:17 (NKJV)  <sup>17</sup> Therefore, in all things He had to be made like <i>His</i> brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things <i>pertaining</i> to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.</p>	
<p>Proverbs 3:13-18 (NKJV)  <sup>13</sup> Happy <i>is</i> the man <i>who</i> finds wisdom, And the man <i>who</i> gains understanding; <sup>14</sup> For her proceeds <i>are</i> better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold.  <sup>15</sup> She <i>is</i> more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her. <sup>16</sup> Length of days <i>is</i> in her right hand, In her left hand riches and honor. <sup>17</sup> Her ways <i>are</i> ways of pleasantness, And all her paths <i>are</i> peace. <sup>18</sup> She <i>is</i> a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy <i>are all</i> who retain her.</p>	
<p>Ephesians 5:15-16 (NIV)  <sup>15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,<sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.</p>	
<p>Isaiah 25:8 (NKJV)  <sup>8</sup> He will swallow up death forever,      And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces;      The rebuke of His people      He will take away from all the earth;      For the Lord has spoken.</p>	