Wealth

Adam Willingham · Ecclesiastes 5:10–20

INTRODUCTION

- We pursue wealth. And we pursue sometimes more than just what we need.
- We see in this passage a problem with wealth and the pursuit of money. But we also see the solution to the problem in this passage.
- So everything is meaningless if you take God out of the picture.

1 The Three Limitations of Wealth

Ecclesiastes 5:10; Ecclesiastes 5:13–16; Proverbs 23:4–5

- The first limitation of wealth is in verse 10 that wealth brings no satisfaction.
- He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver, nor he who loves abundance with increase.
- The love of money is an insatiable desire that can never be fulfilled.
- The second limitation of wealth is that it provides no guarantees.
- For wealth certainly makes itself wings like an eagle that flies toward the heavens.
- The third limitation of wealth is that it will most certainly disappear at death.

2 The Four Consequences of Wealth

Ecclesiastes 5:11–12; Ecclesiastes 5:16–17; 1 Timothy 6:9

- Number one, wealth does not come alone. When goods increase, they increase who eat them or consume them.
- A second consequence of wealth is that it can become useless.
- A third consequence of wealth is that it can deprive us of sleep.
- The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, whether he eats little or much, but the abundance of the rich will not permit him to sleep.
- Fourth and final consequence of wealth listed here is that it can ruin your life.
- It's not merely the having of the riches, but it is the pursuing of the riches.

3 Enjoy the Good of Your Labor

Ecclesiastes 5:18–20

- Number one, enjoy the good of your labor.
- It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink and to enjoy the good of all his labor in which he toils under the sun.
- Enjoy whatever blessings you can have within what you can afford. But act your wage.

4 Be Content With Your Circumstances

1 Timothy 6:8

- Number two, be content with your circumstances.
- The point of that passage is that prosperity as well as adversity are unpredictable.
- Be thankful for it and enjoy it, but realize you can't rely on it.
- And so be willing to accept that and to be content, whatever your circumstances are.

5 Fear God and Keep His Commandments

- Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is man's all.
- So we must view everything, including work and wealth, through the lens of eternity.
- Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in and steal, for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Won't you cling to God today?**

MY NOTES