

## **Life Group Questions midland**evangelical**free**church midlandfree.org



Date: October 17, 2021

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:4-16

## "Our Portion"

- In Ecclesiastes 2 we discussed our "Portion." Do you remember that sermon or section of scripture? What was the point? (Pie example)
- God gave both the First Adam and the Second Adam (Jesus) work to do.
- If work was part of the Portion that God gives to all humanity, what does that tell us about the nature of work?
- What does that tell us about how we should work?
- Do you think we will work in heaven? Why or why not?
- What does 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 and 1 Timothy 2:1-4 add to our understanding of our God-given work and how we should carry it out?

## Ecclesiastes 4:4 -

- How does this worker do their work?
- What motivates them?
- What becomes of their effort?

#### Ecclesiastes 4:5 -

- What distinguishes the fool from the worker in 4:4?
- What is the connection between idleness and "eating one's own flesh?"
- Is one (the worker or the fool) better? Why?

## Ecclesiastes 4:6 -

• What words would you use to describe the person in 4:6?



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- How does 4:6 relate to 4:4?
- What differentiates the person in 4:6 from both the worker (4:4) and the fool (4:5)?
- How does Ecclesiastes 4:6 relate to Colossians 3:23-24?
- Ecclesiastes 4:6 tells us about something that is better than another. That led me to ask, "What does the Bible say is better?" Please see the list below.

#### **Ecclesiastes 4:8**

- Ecclesiastes 4:8 states that the "eyes are never satisfied." Do you find this to be true? How so?
- Any ideas what will finally satisfy our eyes? (Hints below)<sup>ii</sup>

## BETTER - *That which is better* ESV

Ps 37:16 – Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked.

<u>Pr 12:9</u> – <u>Better</u> to be lowly and have a servant than to play the great man and lack bread.

<u>Pr 15:</u>16 – <u>Better</u> is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble with it.

Pr 15:17 – Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a fattened ox and hatred with it.

<u>Pr 16:8</u> – <u>Better</u> is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice.

Pr 17:1 – Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.

<u>Pr 19:1</u> – <u>Better</u> is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.

<u>Pr 27:5</u> – <u>Better</u> is open rebuke than hidden love.

<u>Pr 27:10</u> – Do not forsake your friend and your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity. <u>Better</u> is a neighbor who is near than a brother who is far away.

<u>Pr 28:6</u> – <u>Better</u> is a poor man who walks in his integrity than a rich man who is crooked in his ways.

<u>Ec 4:6</u> – <u>Better</u> is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind.



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<u>Ec 4:13</u> – <u>Better</u> was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice.

<u>Ec 6:9</u> – <u>Better</u> is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind.

<u>Ec 7:8</u> – <u>Better</u> is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

# " What will satisfy our eyes?

Matthew 5:8 (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

1 Corinthians 13:12 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

Revelation 22:4 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup>They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

John 14:9 (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

"See" also – the following article...

We Will See His Face. What Is the Beatific Vision? MARCH 11, 2021

https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/we-will-see-his-face

by David Mathis, Executive Editor, desiringGod.org