



ZACCHAEUS'S FIRST ATTEMPT TO SEE JESUS.

Memory Verse

I said in my heart,

"God shall judge the righteous and the wicked,

For there is a time there for every purpose

and for every work."

— Ecclesiastes 3:17

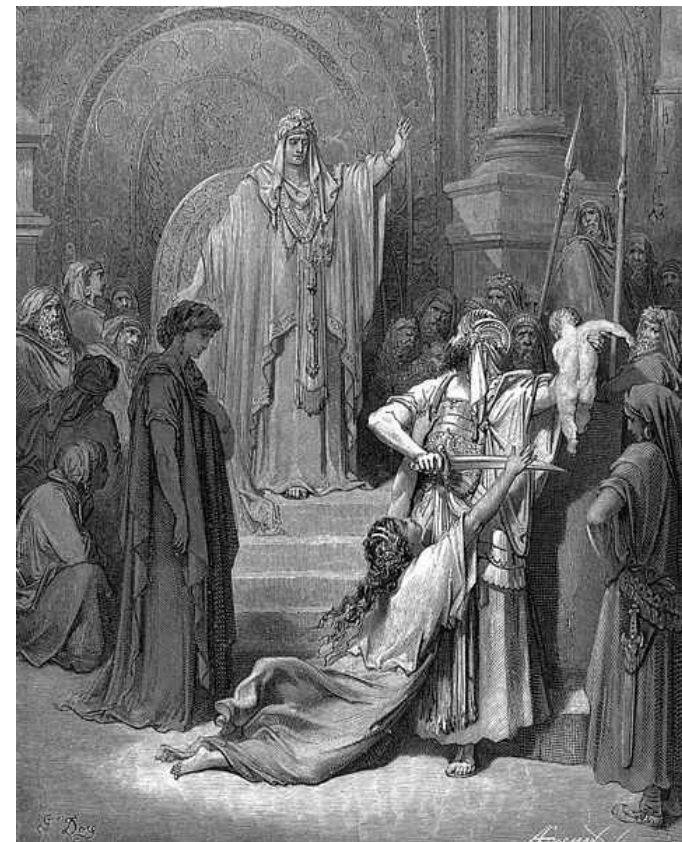
I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

- Lord's Day & Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday & Saturday

Signature

Daily Bible Studies  
May 26 - June 1, 2013

"A Crying Shame"  
Ecclesiastes 3:16 - 4:16



Solomon judging between two mothers.

## The Lord's Day & Monday

Have you been paying attention? You are about to start studying God's Word. When you read the Bible, you are reading words that came right out of God's mouth. You need to think about what God is saying.

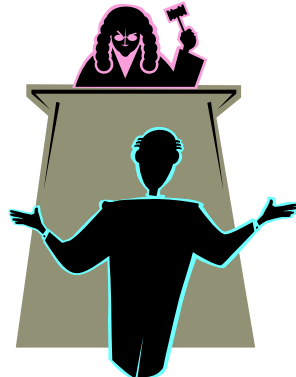


This week you need to be reading **Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:16.**

This week Solomon takes many more looks at what is happening "under the sun."

Solomon will see some things and you should be able to answer a few questions from what he sees:

1. What happens to right and wrong when man forgets that God made him and God will judge him?
2. Are you any different than an animal?
3. How should we spend the strength and energy that we have?
4. How should we react when people try to tell us that we are doing things wrong or that there is a better way to do them?
5. Does fame really last 15 minutes?



## Friday & Saturday Quiz

Review the week's lessons. Write down some things you learned, then go tell your parents and/or one of the elders.

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## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Lord Jesus, all I can say is, 'Wow!' Your Word is powerful. Thank you for the warnings it give me. Thank you that I am changed by your Word, thank you that I can have fellowship with you through the Word. Thank you for the satisfaction I find in you. Forgive me for searching for satisfaction in being popular and cool. Forgive me for ignoring your counsel. Help me to rest in your love and trust you. You are so good."

Pray for the Lord's Day service:

1. Pray that everyone would think it is important to come and be able to come.
2. Pray for Sunday School and Pastor Tim's sermon.
3. Pray that we would encourage each other to love the Lord Jesus.

## Friday & Saturday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 4:13-16**.

Well, this week closes on a very powerful note in my opinion. Solomon teaches us a few more lessons here.

First, he talks about an old king who won't listen to anyone. He thinks that because he has a fancy crown on his head that he knows everything. He doesn't think he needs to learn from anyone.

He has made two mistakes. First, he has put himself in danger by trusting only in himself. Contrary to what he thinks, he can make bad decisions. He should listen to wise people around him. Second, he assumes that people will respect him and bow before him because he is called the king. Well, the reality is you can have a lot of fancy names for yourself, but if you are an idiot no one is going to care about your name or who you think you are.

Finally, boys and girls, please read and strongly consider this next point. Solomon talks about popularity. The king might be very popular, but most people are ready to get rid of him and have a new king. That's just what sinful people do.

Be warned young ones. So many people are trying to be cool. They want to be liked by the "cool kids." Girls dress immodestly and quite frankly act stupid to get the attention of some boy. Take it from me. I am a teacher and I have worked with several hundred teenagers. I can see it coming a mile away. If you want it bad enough, you will get the "cool kids" attention, but sadly they will use you up, and once you no longer entertain them, they will throw you away like yesterday's newspaper.

Remember people are so sinful they cheered for Jesus one week and crucified him the next.

Don't end up as a piece of trash. Seek to please Jesus.

"And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever." - 1st John 2:17

## The Lord's Day & Monday Quiz

Before we find the answers to the questions in today's study, you think about them, and pray. See if you can write down how you would answer those questions.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Dear Lord, help me to take your Word very seriously this week. Holy Spirit, please remind me that there is nothing more important than listening to what God is telling me in the Bible. As I listen, please change me and help me to obey for your glory."

Pray for your family:

1. Dad and Mom
2. Brothers and Sisters
3. Grandpas, Grandmas, Uncles, Aunts, and Cousins

## Tuesday

Today's reading is **Ecclesiastes 3:16—22**.

Today, we see Solomon looking under the sun. What does he see?

Well, before we answer that imagine you are walking down the street and a man jumps in your way. He beats you up and takes all of your money, but as he is running away a police officer tackles him to the ground. "Yes! Everything will be made right," you think. Unfortunately, your joy turns to disappointment and anger, when the robber gives half of your money to the cop and the cop lets him go like nothing happened at all.

This is what Solomon saw. He saw people that God had given power to; power to protect people, power to serve people, and power to punish evil people. Instead of using their power for good, they were using it for evil, just like the bad cop in our story. They were using it to help themselves and hurt others.

Why did this happen in Solomon's day? Why does it happen in our day? God is the ultimate "Avenger," and when men do not fear Him and do not remember that God will judge them, they quickly begin to do evil in order to serve themselves. They do not care if they hurt others, because they do not think they will ever be punished for it.

Solomon seems to say that when men forget God, they act no different than the animals. The animals kill and eat one another so they can survive. The lions do not care that they are causing a zebra pain when they eat it. They do not see anything besides what they will do to live for another day. In the same way, the man who does not have faith in Jesus, can see nothing besides his daily activities. He forgets that he will stand before the judge of the whole universe, Jesus.

Thankfully, you have been reminded of this fact today by Solomon. He said, "God will judge the righteous and the wicked. For there is a time there for every purpose and for every work." Unlike the animals, men will live forever.

Remember last week? There is a time for everything. There is a time for the wicked to run wild and there is a time for God to end the party and to give the people that have ignored God the punishment they deserve.

## Thursday Quiz

### True or False

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. A good friend tells you that you can make your own decisions without your parents.   | T | F |
| 2. A good friend always tells you things that make you happy.   | T | F |
| 3. A good friend will give you advice from God's Word.  | T | F |
| 4. Godly friends are a powerful blessing and gift from God.   | T | F |
| 5. If someone causes me to sin, but I really like them, it's OK. I will be able to change them before they mess me up too much. | T | F |

### Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Holy Spirit, thank you for this lesson. I can see that work is important, but it is not as important as my family and friends and it definitely is not as important as you. Help me to work hard and love you and others. Help me also to choose my friends wisely. Please give me godly companions."

Pray for the leaders of our government. This week all of the leaders are judges. As we have seen in this week's lesson, God is the final judge. The Lord expects judges on earth to do right, defend the innocent, and punish the guilty.



1. Honorable William J. Gabler (Salamanca)
2. Honorable William M. Skretny (Chief Judge—U.S. District Court—WNY)
3. Honorable Clarence Thomas (U.S. Supreme Court Justice)

## Thursday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 4:4 - 12**.

In today's lesson, Solomon teaches us some lessons about work. What place should work have in our lives? Some people are lazy and don't work at all. Other people work too hard and neglect all other parts of their life. So, let's see what Solomon has to say about these things.

First, in verses 4-6, he sees two problems. The super hard worker gains many things, but then his neighbor hates him. We saw this yesterday. On the other hand, the lazy man sits around doing nothing. His refrigerator is empty because he has no money and his house is falling apart because he has no money to fix it. Oh yeah, don't forget he is too lazy to fix it. In verse 6, it seems like Solomon suggests something in between. Do enough work to survive, but not so much that you forget the Lord Jesus and your family.

Next, Solomon discusses a type of man that I think you are familiar with. Did you ever see "The Christmas Carol" with Ebenezer Scrooge or maybe Scrooge McDuck? Solomon talks about a man who cares only about himself and making money. He is so obsessed with money that he is a total jerk. He has no friends, no family, no one to enjoy life with. Sadly, he doesn't ever seem to realize that he is piling up money for no reason. He is the kind of guy that counts his stacks of gold and cries himself to sleep because it has left him lonely and miserable. Tragically, this man will count his coins all the way to Hell. He has not only missed out on earthly companions, he has neglected the friend that sticks closer than a brother, the Lord Jesus Christ himself.

Finally, Solomon gives us some proper perspective. In verses 9-12, he tells us that instead of being independent and self-sufficient, we should depend on and help others. We won't have to work non-stop if we are part of a church that supports one another. God said it is not good for us to be alone. It is a blessing to be a friend of Jesus and to have godly companions. Friends that are faithful to the Lord and you will bring great strength to your life.

## Tuesday Quiz

1. Read **Romans 13:3-4**. Why does God give some men power?

2. Read Acts 17:30-31, 2nd Corinthians 5:10 and John 5:22-30. Write down at least two things you learned from these verses.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.—James 3:13-18  
And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray: "Lord Jesus, I know that I am not an animal. You made me in your image. I am an eternal soul and one day I will meet you face to face. Help me to live that way."

Pray for your church family:

1. Ms. Britany Clark and her baby
2. Mr. and Mrs. Duff
3. Mrs. Reta Fallon

## Wednesday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 4:1-6**.

Just like yesterday, Solomon is looking around at the things happening under the sun and he sees more disturbing things that men do when they ignore the Lord.

Solomon sees bad actions followed by bad reactions. Again, he observes people being abused by other people who have power. This is the action.

Use your imagination again. Maybe you are a poor person. You are trying to do the right thing and pay all the people that you owe money. You find a job, now you just need a way to get there. You ask a neighbor if you can borrow one of his ten cars. He says you can, but if you want to borrow it you must give him all of the money you make each week except for one dollar. Your neighbor knows you are desperate, so he takes advantage of you.

This is the kind of sin that Solomon saw and that God hates. But Solomon also saw a sinful reaction to these sinful actions. Solomon saw himself and others wishing that they had never been born. He saw people who wanted to die when they were taken advantage of.

Is that how we should react? One of the law's of "nature" says, "for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction." A godly man or woman will not wish to die when he is taken advantage of. Instead he will seek to glorify God in the middle of all his trouble. He will respond to evil with good.

Solomon sees one more thing today that disturbs him. He sees the sin of envy. Envy is wanting what others have.

He sees those that are being taken advantage of envious of the dead. Instead of being content with their lives, people want to "live" like the dead.

Solomon also sees a hard working man being envied by his neighbors. A man works hard and gets lots of stuff, but then his neighbors use him, are jealous of him, and in their hearts they steal what the man has earned.

## Wednesday Quiz

**Read Psalm 73 and answer the questions. You might want to have your dad or mom help you. Psalm 73 was written by a man named Asaph and he wondered why God was letting evil men "win."**

1. Verse 3: Asaph was \_\_\_\_\_ of the wicked.
2. Verse 11: The wicked were doing evil and kind of making fun of God. What were they saying about God? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Verse 13: Asaph saw all of this and thought he had cleansed his hands in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Verse 14: Asaph went into the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, and he understood the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wicked.
5. Verse 22: When Asaph saw that the wicked will be destroyed, he realized that he had been f \_\_\_\_\_, i \_\_\_\_\_, and like a b \_\_\_\_\_.

## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray: "Lord Jesus, please forgive me for feeling bad for myself and wishing my life was more like someone else's life. You have given me everything I need. Help me to be grateful and content."

Pray for missionaries who tell others about Jesus:

This week's missionary is Ms. Hannah West. She works in freezing cold and dark Alaska. She spreads the good news about the Lord Jesus through a radio program for children. She helps and encourages God's people at a church in a town called Craig, Alaska.

