

- unstable thing is man. Man (mankind) must learn to live in a world where the wind blows and the moisture cycle is complete even though man is not nearly so predictable or constant
2. Ecc 3:1-15...The poem of time. Man's time is limited but there is time for everything necessary if one will use the time that is at hand for the matter that is to be undertaken.
 3. Ecc 4:4-12...Contentedness is important but it is often not sought (v.8) but if one will accept the principles under which we may operate, life is less restrictive and more comfortable.
 4. Ecc 5:1-7...Be honest with God...that keeps us on he right plane with others
 5. Ecc 6:1-11...Observe the ironies of life...since we cannot know it all or understand it all we survive on what we do know and how we can serve.
 6. Ecc 9:7-12...The passage almost speaks for itself...take advantage of what the Lord has given you and throw yourself into it fully.
 7. Ecc 11:1-10...Give yourself fully to whatever ministry you many have. The ultimate reward is from the Lord but you may be a great blessing to others without even knowing it....after all, if a tree falls wherever it will land that is where it will be!

B. Summary Notes: **Being responsible**

1. We recognize that the world is stable...we are the shaky parts.
2. God has given us time as a tool for achievement---to use it at our own opportunity and responsibility.
3. Watch for and enjoy the gifts of God and the things that make for happiness and health
4. Appreciate what the Lord provides and make the most of it.
5. Give yourself freely to the issues of living and remember that the the Lord is the party to whom you are accountable.

C. Conclusion: Live contentedly (not in indolence or indulgence). We are told that godliness with contentment is great gain. Work hard and purposefully to serve God and others.

#4. Control ambition and goals

Much of the difficulty in our societies results from ambition and goals that lead some to problematic approaches to the whole scene. They may cheat, lie, steal, etc., to gain an end which they desire with little thought about others on the pathway. The goals that are purely personal and develop for ego or economic reasons give only temporary satisfaction and the reality of this in the life of Solomon is powerful