

A. The Scriptures:

1. Ecc 2:1-11....Just take a quick note at all the stuff the King had and ask yourself in the light of the text if it brought him any real or lasting satisfaction.
2. Ecc 2:18-23...What is the great failure in this human achievement>
3. Ecc 5:9-17...The amassing of great wealth does not bring the sort of peace one would like. Why not? Well, the more you have the more others will want from you and it gets to be a very difficult setting.
4. Ecc 6:1-5...You may achieve the goals of ambition and suddenly find there is no continuance in them
5. Ecc 7:7-14..Evaluate every day in view of what God has given. Be careful about the good old days.
6. Ecc 8:12..inequities in life mar the satisfaction that one expects.
7. Ecc 9:13-18 ...The poor wise man won the battle for the people but the generals took the credit. One will find peace with contentment but not aggravation.

B. Summary Notes: **Controlling ambitions and goals**

1. Will make you realize that things do not bring peace in a full sense
2. Will help you to see that longevity does not produce the contentment desired because it may not be accompanied by the things that make life pleasant or meaningful
3. Keeps us from amassing things just for the sake of possession.
4. Shows us that the real values in ambitions are for pleasing the Lord and accepting His gifts, enablements, and opportunities.

C. Summary: Put your emphasis on spiritual things and on the benefit of others not chiefly on the things of this life. The eternal values are extremely important...the temporal ones are here today and gone tomorrow. The real values of a person's life are not found in the things they possess unless....God directs that way, opens the doors that way, and is honored as the Sovereign Lord.

5. ***Enjoy the realities as you see them***

We are much taken with fantasy...the realities are a bit harsh at times. But the great values in life are associated with realities...whether life or death, etc. Value them highly and make the most of them.

A. The Scriptures:

1. Ecc 12:1-7...So you are getting old and showing the signs. Just remember your Creator...trust Him...things are better.
2. Ecc 9:7-10...The reality of relationship and occupation. Enjoy!
3. 5:"18-20..Survey the gifts of God. What can be better than these?