

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BIBLE CONFERENCE

11-12 December 1989, Altoona

EFFECTIVELY USING YOUR LIFE

Studies in Ecclesiastes

Tom V. Taylor

Biblical Seminary, Hatfield, PA.

I. Some introductory thoughts:

A. Regarding our subject

We are all familiar with the cliché.. "Only one life, twill soon be past...only what's done for Christ will last." It is a modern proverb, so to speak, that is precisely true and should help us orient our goals and performances in life. There are many ramifications to it, however, and some of these will be considered in our discussion.

By effectively using life there is no intention that some great and powerful work must be accomplished by all. Many very effective Christians make little noise and one may hardly know they are around. They are effective because they are faithful and achieve what God gives them to do..perhaps in a very unspectacular manner but in truth. We are not discussing great fleshly abilities and human accomplishments but rather being faithful and devout in the use of life.

The effective use of life serves both God and man in a better way. It is assumed that one knows the Lord Jesus as Saviour before any real meaning can be attached to life and that as well one knows the reality of daily yieldedness to the Spirit of God. The other needed factor is a respect for the Word of God and a realization of the role of prayer. These talks do not major on these things...they are assumed for this conference but if they are not true of our hearers, it is hard to have true effectiveness in what is ours. Your life must have meaning by salvation and commitment before it can be used for God in any other than a negative way.