

***Ecclesiastes 5:8****If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them.* ***9****But this is gain for a land in every way: a king committed to cultivated fields.* ***10****He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.* ***11****When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes?* ***12****Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.* ***13****There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt,* ***14****and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand.* ***15****As he came from his mother’s womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand.* ***16****This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind?* ***17****Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.* ***18*** *Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot.* ***19****Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.* ***20****For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.* ***6:1****There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind:* ***2****a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous evil.*

***3****If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life’s good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he.* ***4****For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered.* ***5****Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he.* ***6****Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place?* ***7****All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied.* ***8****For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living?* ***9****Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind. (ESV)*

Ben Blakey • Compass Bible Church • April 13 & 14, 2024 • Msg. G24-03

**1. Burst \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(vv.5:8-17)

 **2. Get \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 (vv.5:18-20)

**3. Avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(vv.6:1-9)

**Application Questions**

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today’s sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today’s study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others. For more information about small groups at Compass Bible Church that utilize these questions as the basis for their weekly discussion, please call the church office at (949) 540-0699 or email us at SmallGroups@CompassChurch.org.*

1. Read **Ecclesiastes 5:10-11**. Even though looking at our modern world also proves that more wealth does not equal more happiness, why do you suppose it is still so easy for us to fall into that trap?

2. Read **Proverbs 23:4-5**. In your own experience, what are some of the ways you have seen the fleeting nature of wealth? How should this help us think differently about wealth as Christians?

3. Read **Ecclesiastes 5:18-20**. Notice how frequently this passage refers to God! What are some of the theological truths you need to dwell on more in order to be content and enjoy God’s daily gifts?

4. What are some of the physical/circumstantial things in your life that you want to savor more intentionally this week? What are some of the spiritual blessings that you want to meditate on more?

5. Read **Ecclesiastes 6:9**. What are some of the ways your appetite might be tempted to wander instead of being content with what your eyes can see? Is there any situation or circumstance in your life right now that you might look back at someday and regret that you missed out on the good God had for you in that season because you were too busy desiring something else?

*Here are some books that may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today’s sermon. While Pastor Ben cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today’s topic.*

Gibson, David. ***Living Life Backward.*** Crossway, 2017.

Wiersbe, Warren. ***Be Satisfied.*** Victor Books, 1990.

*This Week’s
Bible Reading Schedule*

**April 14th**

 *1Sam.15-16 & Lk.14:25-35*

**April 15th**

 *1Sam.17-18 & Lk.15:1-10*

**April 16th**

 *1Sam.19-21 & Lk.15:11-32*

**April 17th**

 *1Sam.22-24 & Lk.16:1-18*

**April 18th**

 *1Sam.25-26 & Lk.16:19-31*

**April 19th**

 *1Sam.27-29 & Lk.17:1-19*

**April 20th**

 *1Sam.30-31 & Lk.17:20-37*

**April 21st**

 *2Sam.1-3 & Lk.18:1-17*