

WHAT DOES ECCLESIASTES TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. ... Without doubt, the mightiest thought the mind can entertain is the thought of God, and the weightiest word in any language is its word for God.”

~ A.W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*

It would follow, therefore, that the most important thing we can read in Ecclesiastes is its revelation of God. How does Solomon portray God in this book, and how does that apply to our lives today? There are 41 direct references to God in Ecclesiastes: every one of them calls Him “Elohim.” Elohim is not a _____ for God; it is His _____.

Ecclesiastes 3.10-18

- God is the _____.
 - God gives _____.
 - God gives _____.
- God is _____.
 - God’s doings are final: this motivates us to fear Him
- God is _____.
 - Solomon observes that here on earth (under the sun), judgment is often confused. But there is coming a day when God will judge all men accurately and reveal their judgment.

God has ordained everything in your life, He is in charge and He is holding you accountable for all that you do.

Ecclesiastes 5.1-7

- God is _____ and _____ above mankind.
 - This demands carefulness in _____.
 - Obedient listening is better than foolish sacrifice.

- This demands carefulness in _____.
- Thoughtful reverence is better than foolish babbling.
- This demands carefulness in _____.
- Reasonable commitments is better than foolish oath-breaking

Our worship must never be casual, flippant or careless: the One we worship sits on a high throne and regards our worship very seriously.

Ecclesiastes 11.5

- God is _____.

God's creative handiwork displays His infinite wisdom and skill: we are to be in awe of His wondrous power.

Ecclesiastes 8.17

- God is _____.

We cannot possibly know all that's going on here on earth (or even in our own lives), but God does.

Conclusion

The details of Ecclesiastes come together to form this picture of God: He is way bigger than you! He is in heaven; you're on earth. He made everything; you can't figure out how. He is a righteous judge; your world is full of injustice. He chooses what to give to each person; you take what you're given. His wisdom is infinite; your wisdom can't fathom His. Every time Solomon calls our attention to God, he points up – way up! The God of Ecclesiastes is a high and lofty ruler who does as He pleases and who holds His creation accountable to obey Him. It is little wonder that our response must be what Ecclesiastes says: fear and obey God!