

“Kings Of Israel” – SOLOMON – III

1 Kings 3:5 – God gives Solomon a “*blank check*”.

3:9 – Solomon asks for WISDOM

3:13 – God also gives him riches, long life, victory ...

- Solomon asked for POLITICAL wisdom, not spiritual discernment

... Solomon did some foolish things – **11:1-4**, **12:4**

10:18, 21-23 - Solomon could have anything he wanted.

Ecclesiastes 1:2 – Solomon’s philosophy of LIFE.

- Solomon’s life was empty, shallow ... **2:11**, **2:17-18**, **3:16**,

5:10-11, **6:12**

Solomon looked for fulfillment in the same places we look.

1 PLEASURE – **Ecclesiastes 2:1**– The “*fun*” didn’t last.

2 WINE – **2:3** – “*Let’s PARTY!*”

2 WORK – **2:4-10** ... It didn’t satisfy – **2:11**

What is the real purpose of life? PEOPLE THINK ...

1.- THINGS ... would make me happy – **2:17**

- Americans are “*rich*”, yet dissatisfied.

2.- PEOPLE/PERSON ... would make me happy.

- People are “*fickle*”!

3.- SUCCESS ... would make me happy – “*Dreams can turn into nightmares.*”

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2 – This is a sermon from the “*Preacher*”!

- We don’t have to try these things, because Solomon tried them to the FULLEST, and found out they were EMPTY!

12:13 – Satisfaction is **2-FOLD** ...

1.- We Must Take God Seriously – “***Fear God***”

- This means ... respect, reverence, worship

2.- We Must Do What He Says – “***Obey Him***”

- 1 Samuel 15:22 – “*...to obey is better than sacrifice ...*”

12:14 – WHY? A “*day of judgment*” is coming.

- Jesus was “*judged*” for our sins ... we will be “*judged*” for what we did with Jesus.

Matthew 6:33 – Take God SERIOUSLY!