

# Ecclesiastes 5

LESSON 06

## *Dreams and Riches*

### 1. Ecclesiastes 5:1-8 – Dreams and Words

- a. Ch. 4 considered people in their places, now it is religious people in their temple
- b. *“keep your foot”* – be careful, cautious, don’t fall – he quotes laws and Proverbs
- c. *“hear”* – obedient actions speak louder than vain words (Rom 10:17)
- d. *“sacrifice of fools”* – such as Cain, Saul (1 Sam 13:13, 15:22), Prov 15:8, Pope
- e. *“that they do evil”* – by their talking, giving, pride, wicked thoughts
- f. *“In prayer it is better to have a heart without words, than words without heart”*
- g. *“thy words be few”* – control the tongue - Prov 10:19, 17:28, Mtt 6:7, 12:36, Ja 1:19
- h. Much business = dreams; much words = fool. Both dreams and words are empty.
- i. Pay your “vows” is a quote from the 9<sup>th</sup> law, Deu 23:21-22, Mtt 5:33-37, Jm 5:12
- j. Better than words and dreams is the doing right in the fear of God. (5:7)

### 2. Ecclesiastes 5:8-12 – The Labouring Man

- a. God is above all (else what is it to talk of justice, judgment, or perversion)
- b. They are not source of justice, nor news the truth, academic-knowledge, pastor-right
- c. *“higher than the highest”* = Isaiah 57:15, *“riches profit not”* - Prov 11:4
  - i. He made the rich, he made the poor, he made the earth for us all – Pro 22:2
- d. 5:10 → is why Buffet, Bezos, and Gates continue to grow their wealth.
- e. 5:11+ Money does not satisfy, solve every problem bring peace and security
- f. 5:12 – The gem of the whole chapter: the good is in the working not the having
  - i. Study to be quiet and work - 1Th 4:11, Luke 12:15

### 3. Ecclesiastes 5:13-17 – Riches Disappear

- a. The sore evil is when riches destroy their owners - 1 Tim 6:9 or...
- b. 5:14-15 – Due to your sickness the riches perish – 1 Tim 6:7
- c. *“in all points”* – Naked you come, naked you go – with nothing – Job 1:21

### 4. Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 – What is Good and Comely

- a. *“it is good”* – the first time this shows up in the book
- b. *“for it is his portion”* – your lot, you can do no more in your limited estate
- c. *“this is the gift of God”* – the best good you have (food, work, joy) is a gift
- d. 5:20 – Why is it a gift? Having joy will cause you to forget the vanity of your days
- e. Trust not in uncertain riches - 1 Ti 6:17 – Paul adds, lay hold on eternal life. 2Co 4:17