

# **THE BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM**

**WEEK 111 – Ecclesiastes 2 – 7 & James 4 – 5**

## **WEEK 111 – ANSWERS**

1. **Sunday** – Worship/Time With Family/Review Answers With Others

2. **Monday** –

1) **Ecclesiastes 2 – Read & Answer Below**

- a) Continuing the same theme began in Ecclesiastes 1:13ff (i.e., pursuing happiness without God), the penman declares (in Ecclesiastes 2:1), “I said in mine \_\_\_\_\_, Go to now, I will prove thee with \_\_\_\_\_, therefore enjoy \_\_\_\_\_: and, behold, this also is \_\_\_\_\_.” (heart; mirth; pleasure; vanity)
- b) According to Ecclesiastes 2:3 what did Solomon give himself too as he sought for happiness without God? (wine and folly)
- c) Read Ecclesiastes 2:4-6. How many times is the term “I” and the term “me” specifically referenced? (The term “I” is found 6 times and “me” is found 5 times)
- d) In what early verse does Solomon say, “...I had great possessions...?” (Ecclesiastes 2:7)
- e) Referencing abundant wealth and perhaps sexual sins, in what verse does Solomon tell us that he “...gathered...also silver and gold...and the delights of the sons of men...?” (Ecclesiastes 2:8)
- f) What are the first three words of Ecclesiastes 2:11? (Then I looked)
- g) According to Ecclesiastes 2:11 (looking back on the context of Ecclesiastes 1:16 through 2:11), did things/stuff, pleasures and the like bring Solomon true happiness (without God)? (No!)
- h) After reflecting upon the vanity of a life without God and after contemplating the equalizing nature of death, in Ecclesiastes 2:17, Solomon said, “Therefore I \_\_\_\_\_ life.” (hated)
- i) What verse begins, “For there is a man whose labour is in wisdom, and in knowledge, and in equity...?” (Ecclesiastes 2:21)
- j) What late verse begins, “For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy...?” (Ecclesiastes 2:26)

2) **James 4 – Read Only**

3. **Tuesday** –

1) **Ecclesiastes 3 – Read & Answer Below**

- a) Ecclesiastes 3:1 reads, “To \_\_\_\_\_ thing there is a season, and a \_\_\_\_\_ to every \_\_\_\_\_ under the heaven.” (every; time; purpose)
- b) Ecclesiastes 3:2 continues, “A time to be \_\_\_\_\_, and a time to \_\_\_\_\_.” (born; die)
- c) What verse begins, “A time to weep, and a time to laugh...?” (Ecclesiastes 3:4)
- d) What verse contains the phrase, “...a time to keep silence, and a time to speak?” (Ecclesiastes 3:7)

- e) Speaking of God, Ecclesiastes 3:11 states, “He hath made every thing \_\_\_\_\_ in his time....” (beautiful)
  - f) Remember the context of this book. The inspired Solomon is picturing one (i.e., himself) searching for the meaning of life—without God. The best he can come up with in this vain quest is perhaps found in Ecclesiastes 3:12-13, 22. In this passage, what does he say one should do in this life? (He says that they should do good and eat/drink and enjoy their labor/work. Note – While enjoying one’s labor/work in this life is fine—in and of itself (providing such work/labor is good and honorable, cf. 2 Thessalonians 3:10; Ephesians 4:28)—such is not the “real” purpose of life. At the end of the book, Solomon will reveal the REAL PURPOSE of one’s life on the earth!)
  - g) Ecclesiastes 3:17 declares, “I said in mine heart, God shall judge the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_....” (righteous; wicked)
  - h) What verse reads, “All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again? (Ecclesiastes 3:20; Note – Some false religionists twist this and other passages falsely saying that humans (like animals) have no immortal soul. However, this passage is speaking FROM THE VANTAGE POINT of one seeking for truth/happiness without God. From such an incorrect vantage point it seems that things are pointless. In other words, to such a person it seems as if men die (both the good and the bad), animals die, etc.—all to no avail. Thus, to such a person, life seems vain and empty. This verse cannot be used to prove man has no immortal soul! The fact is: Unlike animals, man DOES HAVE an immortal soul (Matthew 10:28))
  - i) How many times is the phrase, “I said in mine heart” found in this chapter? (Twice, vs. 17, 18)
- 2) James 4 – Read & Answer Below
- a) The end of what early verse contains the phrase, “...ye have not, because ye ask not?” (James 4:2)
  - b) James 4:4 reads, “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world is \_\_\_\_\_ with God? \_\_\_\_\_ therefore will be a friend of the \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.” (friendship; enmity; whosoever; world; enemy)
  - c) James 4:7 is a strong verse. It declares, “Submit \_\_\_\_\_ therefore to \_\_\_\_\_. Resist the \_\_\_\_\_, and he will flee from you.” (yourselves; God; devil)
  - d) What verse begins, “Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you...?” (James 4:8)
  - e) James 4:10 instructs, “\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall \_\_\_\_\_ you up.” (Humble; lift)
  - f) Is it acceptable to God to “speak evil” of your brethren? (No, vs. 11; Note – This verse is dealing with a lack of love/concern for brethren. It is judging harshly WITHOUT the facts!)
  - g) What verse asks the question, “...For what is your life...?” (James 4:14)
  - h) James 4:17 declares, “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is \_\_\_\_\_.” (sin)

4. Wednesday – .

- 1) Ecclesiastes 4 – Read & Answer Below

- a) Ecclesiastes 4:1 tells us, “So I returned, and \_\_\_\_\_ all the oppressions that are done \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.” (considered; under; sun)
  - b) According to the opening verses of this chapter, did Solomon praise the dead or the living more? (The dead, vs. 2ff)
  - c) In what verse does the penman speak of a man who “...is envied of his neighbor?” (Ecclesiastes 4:4)
  - d) What early verse declares, “Better is an handful with quietness, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit?” (Ecclesiastes 4:6)
  - e) What verse begins, “Two are better than one...?” (Ecclesiastes 4:9)
  - f) According to Solomon, what is better: An old foolish king or a poor and wise child? (A poor and wise child, vs. 13)
  - g) What verse begins, “There is no end of all the people...?” (Ecclesiastes 4:16)
  - h) How many times is the term “vanity” found in this chapter? (Four times, vs. 4, 7, 8, 16)
- 2) James 4 – Read & Word Study/Research
- a) Could the first ten verses (i.e., James 5:1-10) be labeled “Worldly lusts vs. Humility?” (Yes. This would perhaps be a fitting section title if one were outlining the text.)
  - b) How many times in the first three verses is the term “lust” and/or “lusts” used? (Three times, vs. 1, 2, 3)
  - c) According to the early part of this inspired chapter, one who is a “friend of the world is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.” (enemy, vs. 4)
  - d) What Old Testament Scripture is cited in James 4:6? (Proverbs 3:34)
  - e) What verse begins, “Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep...?” (James 4:9)
  - f) Is “all” judging condemned in James 4:11-12? If not, what judging is being condemned here? (Certainly not. God never condemns “all” judging. In fact, God commands righteous judgment—John 7:24, Matthew 7:15-21, 1 Corinthians 5:3, 1 Thessalonians 5:21. In fact, Matthew 7:5 even commands righteous judging “after” the beam is removed from the hypocrite’s eye. The judging condemned in James is a harsh judging without the facts. It is a judging that derives from a harsh and critical nature, instead of being from a motive of love. Compare 1 Corinthians 13:7 and Romans 14:4 with John 12:48. We should not be hypocritical in our judgments, nor should we judge based on opinion. Rather, true judgment should always be based on THE WORD of God. After all, it is the standard!)
  - g) Does James 4:13 make it a sin to plan? (Of course not. Even Jesus in the gospels taught that a man wouldn’t build a house or a king wouldn’t go to war without “counting the cost” (i.e., planning). What then is condemned in this passage? The answer is: Planning without God. This is the sin—to presumptuously plan without God! Note the language, “ye that say.” In other words, they were saying in their hearts/minds, “Today or tomorrow we WILL go into such a city, and continue there A YEAR, and buy and SELL, and GET GAIN.” Really? How did they know they would even be alive “tomorrow” or in “a year?” How did they know they would “sell” and/or “get gain?” No, God is not condemning proper planning based on the attitude that says, “If it is God’s Will,” rather God is condemning the presumptuous attitude that makes plans WITHOUT God in mind!)
  - h) James 4:14 makes James 4:13 clear. It reads, “Whereas ye know \_\_\_\_\_ what shall be on the morrow....” (not)

- i) In James 4:14, “life” is referred to as “...a \_\_\_\_\_, that appeareth for a little \_\_\_\_\_, and then vanisheth away.” (vapour; time)
- j) James 4:15 is also critical to the context of its section. It declares, “For that ye \_\_\_\_\_ to say, \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.” (ought; if)

5. **Thursday** –

1) Ecclesiastes 5 – Read & Answer Below

- a) Could Ecclesiastes 5:1-8 be labeled “Rash Vows?” (Yes)
- b) Ecclesiastes 5:2 begins, “Be not \_\_\_\_\_ with thy \_\_\_\_\_, and let not thine heart be \_\_\_\_\_....” (rash; mouth; hasty)
- c) The end of what early verse says, “...and a fool’s voice is known by multitude of words?” (Ecclesiastes 5:3)
- d) Ecclesiastes 5:10 is a powerful verse. It reads, “He that \_\_\_\_\_ silver shall not be \_\_\_\_\_ with silver; nor he that loveth \_\_\_\_\_ with increase: this is also vanity.” (loveth; satisfied; abundance)
- e) Ecclesiastes 5:12 states, “The \_\_\_\_\_ of a laboring man is sweet....” (sleep)
- f) The same verse (Ecclesiastes 5:12) continues, “...but the \_\_\_\_\_ of the rich will not suffer him to \_\_\_\_\_.” (abundance; sleep)
- g) What are the first four words of Ecclesiastes 5:14? (But those riches perish)
- h) Ecclesiastes 5:15 begins, “As he came forth of his mother’s womb, \_\_\_\_\_ shall he return to go as he came....” (naked)
- i) The end of what late verse references laboring “for the wind?” (Ecclesiastes 5:16)

2) James 5 – Read Only

6. **Friday** –

1) Ecclesiastes 6 – Read & Answer Below

- a) Read Ecclesiastes 6:1-2 (which finishes the section on riches began back in 5:9). Is it clear from this passage that Solomon (writing from the vantage point of a worldly mindset—i.e., one seeking for happiness and the purpose of life, without God) is very frustrated by the fact that he will die and leave his riches, honor and power, to others? In other words, does he feel great confusion and frustration when viewing death from this personified worldly viewpoint? (Yes!)
- b) What early verse references/compares an “untimely birth?” (Ecclesiastes 6:3)
- c) What is the “one place” of which Solomon speaks in Ecclesiastes 6:6? (The context makes it clear that it is DEATH!)
- d) In what verse does the confused Solomon (Note – He wrote through inspiration, but he wrote from the VANTAGE POINT of one seeking for true happiness/purpose of life—without God—thus confused “in this sense”) ask, “For what hath the wise more than the fool?” (Ecclesiastes 6:8)
- e) Ecclesiastes 6:12 clearly shows the frustration of one looking for the purpose of life/true happiness—without God. In this verse the penman asks, “For who knoweth what is good for man in this \_\_\_\_\_, all the days of his \_\_\_\_\_ which he spendeth as a \_\_\_\_\_? For \_\_\_\_\_ can tell a man what shall be after him under the sun?” (life; vain; life; shadow; who)

- f) In answer to the questions of Ecclesiastes 6:12—“Who” is the only one that can truly tell man what life is about? (God!, cf., Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)

2) James 5 – Read & Answer Below

- a) Showing context (i.e., dealing with rich/corrupt business men—probably Jewish business men—who were persecuting the church), James 5:1 begins, “Go to now, ye \_\_\_\_\_ men, weep and howl....” (rich)
- b) What early verse reads, “Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten?” (James 5:2)
- c) The end of what early verse says, “...ye have heaped treasure together for the last days?” (James 5:3)
- d) Still within the context of condemning the corrupt oppressors, what verse begins, “Ye have condemned and killed the just...?” (James 5:6)
- e) What are the first two words of James 5:7? (Be patient)
- f) James 5:11 begins, “Behold, we count them \_\_\_\_\_ which endure.” (happy)
- g) Should Christians engage in the flippant giving of oaths/rash swearing? (No, vs. 12. Note – This verse is not condemning promising to tell the truth under oath in a court of law. Such is not even the context!)
- h) What verse contains the powerful phrase, “...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much?” (James 5:16)
- i) Elias (or Elijah) is specifically mentioned in what late verse? (James 5:17)
- j) Does James 5:19-20 make it abundantly clear that it IS possible for a child of God (i.e., cf., “Brethren, if any of you”) to sin and leave the faith/fall away? (Yes!)
- k) Does James 5:19-20 equally make it clear that a fallen brother is also ABLE to repent and come back to the faith/truth? (Yes!)

7. Saturday –

1) Ecclesiastes 7 – Read & Answer Below

- a) Ecclesiastes 7:1 begins, “A good \_\_\_\_\_ is better than precious ointment....” (name)
- b) Ecclesiastes 7:5 reads, “It is \_\_\_\_\_ to hear the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of \_\_\_\_\_.” (better; rebuke; fools)
- c) What verse begins, “Better is the end of a thing than the beginning...?” (Ecclesiastes 7:8)
- d) According to Ecclesiastes 7:9, “...anger resteth in the bosom of \_\_\_\_\_.” (fools)
- e) Beginning a new section/topic, what is the first word of Ecclesiastes 7:11? (Wisdom)
- f) What verse begins, “All things have I seen in the days of my vanity...?” (Ecclesiastes 7:15)
- g) The end of Ecclesiastes 7:18 states, “...for he that feareth \_\_\_\_\_ shall come forth of them all.” (God)
- h) Ecclesiastes 7:20 reminds us, “For there is \_\_\_\_\_ a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth \_\_\_\_\_.” (not; not)
- i) In what verse does Solomon speak of “...the woman, whose heart is snares and nets...?” (Ecclesiastes 7:26)

j) Ecclesiastes 7:29 is a powerful verse. It reads, “Lo, this only have I found, that \_\_\_\_\_ hath made man \_\_\_\_\_; but they have sought out many \_\_\_\_\_.” (God; upright; inventions)

2) James 5 – Read & Word Study/Research

- a) What verse begins, “Your gold and silver is cankered...?” (James 5:3)
- b) Briefly explain James 5:4. (Apparently corrupt (rich) business men (i.e., probably Jewish business men) had withheld wages from workers (i.e., perhaps Christian workers). This verse shows that the God of hosts abhors such dishonesty, corruption and evil.)
- c) Could James 5:7-11 be entitled “Patience in Suffering?” (Yes)
- d) James 5:9 begins, “Grudge \_\_\_\_\_ one against another, brethren...” (not)
- e) What verse ends, “...behold, the judge standeth before the door?” (James 5:9)
- f) What verse speaks of “...the patience of Job...?” (James 5:11)
- g) James 5:13 reads, “Is any among you afflicted? Let him \_\_\_\_\_. Is any merry? Let him \_\_\_\_\_ psalms.” (pray; sing)
- h) While obviously having certain application today, does James 5:14-15 deal with the miraculous—as seen during the first century? In other words, does this text involve a first-century miraculous context? (Without question! Note – Vs. 15 says, “And the prayer of faith SHALL SAVE the sick....There are no if, ands, or buts about it! It says, “...and the Lord SHALL RAISE HIM UP....”)
- i) What verse begins, “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another...?” (James 5:16)
- j) What verse speaks of “Elias” or Elijah as being “...a man subject to like passions as we are...?” (James 5:17)
- k) Although Elijah was subject to the same frailties and weaknesses as other children of God, did God hear and answer his prayer? (Yes! This is an incredibly strengthening passage of Scripture. While God will not hear/answer the prayers of a sinner, He will (according to His Will) do so for his faithful children.)
- l) What late verse uses the phrase, “...err from the truth...?” (James 5:19)