



Life Under The Sun

Pursuit of Labor Is Futility

Ecclesiastes 2:18 - 23

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Retirement Planning

Otto Von Bismark

***Minister
of Prussia
1883***



Retirement Existed For Some

- *Some cities provide retirement for:*
 - *Soldiers*
 - *Police*
 - *Firefighters*
 - *Teachers*

***Social Security was started in 1935
Life expectancy was 58 yrs***



New Testament Urges Care For Widows

1 Tim. 5:1-16 urges care:

- ***If widows were 60 years or older***
- ***Married to one husband***
- ***Brought up children***
- ***Without children to care for her***
- ***Was hospitable***
- ***Assisted those in distress***

Outline of Chapters 1 - 2

<i>1:1-11</i>	<i>The Theme</i>
<i>1:12-18</i>	<i>Method of Discovery</i> <i>Human Activities</i>
<i>2:1-11</i>	<i>– Pursue Pleasure</i>
<i>2:12-17</i>	<i>– Purse Wisdom</i>
<i>2:18-23</i>	<i>– Purse Labor</i>
<i>2:24-26</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>



There Is No Lasting Satisfaction!

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Checking Out “Toil”

Ecclesiastes 2:18

... all my labor ...

AMAL = “trouble, labor,
toil, suffering”





***Garden
Of Eden***
Genesis 2 - 3

Work once was fun without toil

**Cursed is the ground because of you;
In toil you will eat of it
All the days of your life.
Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;
And you will eat the plants of the field;
By the sweat of your face
You will eat bread,
Till you return to the ground,
Because from it you were taken;
For you are dust,
And to dust you shall return.**

Genesis 3:17-19

**For he does not think much about the
fleeting days of his life because God
keeps him preoccupied with the joy he
derives from his activity.**

Eccl. 5:20

A lone, leafless tree stands on a flat, dark landscape under a bright sun on the horizon. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow, transitioning to a pale blue at the top. The sun is positioned to the left of the tree, creating a strong silhouette effect. The ground is dark and textured, possibly a field or a plain.

Life “under the sun”

Phrase occurs 28 times in Ecclesiastes
All chapters except 7, 11 & 12

Checking Out “Toil”

Ecclesiastes 2:18 - 19

Why does Solomon hate his toil?

- 1. Must leave his wealth to someone who continues living.***
- 2. Does not know if he or she be wise.***
- 3. Yet, he or she will have total control.***
- 4. He worked hard to achieve.***



Eccl. 2:20

So Solomon Utterly Despaired

Checking Out “Toil”

Ecclesiastes 2:21

What is King Solomon’s concern?

**Children
Usually
Squander
Their
Inheritance**



- ***70% of 1st generation children squander their inheritance.***
- ***90% of 2nd generation . . .***



THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Checking Out “Toil”

Ecclesiastes 2:21

King Solomon’s concern:

- ***Man who inherits his wealth will squander it***

Checking Out “Toil”

Ecclesiastes 2:22

What was he concerned about?

- 1. He could not take his stuff with him at death.*
- 2. His stuff might be squandered.*



Checking Out “Toil”

Ecclesiastes 2:23

***We work hard all the
time . . .***

***. . . and our reward
is a vanity – a
soap bubble***



Our Conclusion

Ecclesiastes 2:18 - 23

- ***Our toil under the sun has no eternal reward.***
- ***Yet, a righteous man will leave an inheritance to his children and grandchildren – Prov. 13:22***
- ***Only what we do for Christ has eternal value
- 1 Cor. 15:58***

A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, and the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

Prov. 13:22