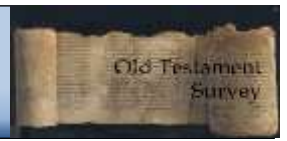




Ecclesiastes – Textbook Reading



Textbook Reading

(Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)

Ch. 23

- ☐ Contents
- ☐ Theological Themes - Ecclesiastes

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 23

The Book of Ecclesiastes

Contents

- What is the meaning of the term “Ecclesiastes”? Where does this term come from? What words are used to translate this term? What does this tell us about the character and message of this book?
- According to the textbook, what is the purpose of this book? What is the meaning of the main term used in the motto? What does this tell us about life? What does this tell us about the purpose of this book? What difference does this make?
- According to the textbook, what is the “thesis” of this book? How is this developed throughout the introduction? What conclusion is reached? How should we respond?
- How is Solomon used as an example of the thesis of this book? What do his activities and accomplishments prove?
- According to the textbook, how does Ecclesiastes connect all these activities to God? How does this contribute to the message of Ecclesiastes? What difference does this make?
- What advice does the teacher offer, based on his observations? How does this add hope? What can we learn from this? How does it apply
- What point does Ecclesiastes make about “destiny” and uncertainties? How do these ideas add to the message of this book? How should we respond?
- What is the point and contribution of the section about old age? What difference does this make?
- According to the textbook, what conclusion does the teacher make at the end of the book? How does this relate to the idea of meaninglessness? How does this relate to God? How does the “fear of God” contribute to this conclusion? How does all of this conclusion help us to make better sense of the rest of this book? How should we respond?

Theological Themes – Ecclesiastes

- What does the textbook suggest Ecclesiastes demonstrates about how we should deal with doubt? What is the desired conclusion of this?
- Describe the point the textbook makes about the “balances” of the views expressed in the wisdom books. What difference should this make in the way we think about the world and our experiences? What difference should this make in the way that we live?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter