

Ecclesiastes & Song of Solomon

66 Books in 52 Weeks

(A Book-by-Book Overview of the Bible)

Ecclesiastes

Summary & Structure

ECCLESIASTES

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

21

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

12

TYPE

WISDOM/POETRY



OVERVIEW

The book contains the thoughts and wisdom of King Solomon, but in a different writing style which departs from the short rhyming verses in Proverbs. He shares his musing on the purpose of life, the impermanence of worldly possessions, and the eternal nature of God and His commandments. While not extremely joyful, it may be comforting to those living with depression, confusion, or any unresolved issues.



WRITTEN
940-931 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
The book is meant for all generations, being timeless.



AUTHOR
King Solomon, son of King David

One-page summaries of every book of the Bible can be purchased and downloaded in PDF form at this web address. <https://teach sundayschool.com/i/bibleblueprints/>

Key Verse

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Title Author

The title comes from the writer identifying himself as “the Preacher.”

Subject Matter

God is the single indisputable _____.

God's ways are not always _____.

On the human side, what is done “_____” simply is not tidy; much of it doesn't add up at all.

The great equalizer is _____, which happens to rich and poor, wise and foolish alike.

Literary Style/Structure

Considered on of the poetry/wisdom books.

The word ‘meaningless/vanity’ and the concept of ‘life under the sun’ occurs frequently in the book. (James 4:14)

Misinterpretation

Some see the message of Ecclesiastes as hedonist or fatalist.

Outline of Ecclesiastes

Introduction (Ecclesiastes 1:1-11)

Preacher introduces his topic (Ecclesiastes 1:2)

Two illustrations of the meaninglessness of life

Humanity's Work (Ecclesiastes 1:3)

Endless Cycle of Activity (Ecclesiastes 1:9)

Investigation and Discoveries (Ecclesiastes 1:12-11:6)

Knowledge/Human Achievement (Ecclesiastes 1:12-18)

Amusements/Pleasures (Ecclesiastes 2:10-11)

Wisdom (Ecclesiastes 2:15-16)

Work (Ecclesiastes 2:22-23)

Social Relationships (Ecclesiastes 4:4, 15-16)

Statement About Being Faithful to God (Ecclesiastes 5:4-6)

Trusting in the King/Government (Ecclesiastes 5:8-9)

Riches (Ecclesiastes 5:10)

Nostalgia (Ecclesiastes 7:10)

The Unfairness of Life (Ecclesiastes 8:14)

Life is Temporary (Ecclesiastes 9:10)

Admonitions (Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:8)

Enjoy life as a gift from God while you are young. (Ecclesiastes 11:9)

Realize there is an aging process. (Ecclesiastes 12:2-8)

Conclusion (Ecclesiastes 12:9-14)

The best life is not one lived under the _____, but one lived under the _____!

Song of Solomon

Summary & Structure

SONG OF SOLOMON

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

22

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

8

TYPE

WISDOM/POETRY



OVERVIEW

Written by Solomon, this book contains words and poetry that complement the Bible's teachings about love and sexual sin. Solomon's writings serve as a reminder that romantic passion can be a great gift, and many sections can be used as an interpretation of Christ's love for His church.



WRITTEN
970-950 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
Meant to be timeless



AUTHOR
King Solomon

One-page summaries of every book of the Bible can be purchased and downloaded in PDF form at this web address. <https://teach sundayschool.com/i/bibleblueprints/>

Key Verse

Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot sweep it away. If one were to give all the wealth of one's house for love, it would be utterly scorned.

Song of Solomon 8:7

Name/Author

Hebrew name is Shir Hashirim, meaning "Song of Songs"
Solomon identified in the first verse as the author

Interpretations/Language

Scholars have approached the reading of this book in several ways...

- Allegory
- Type
- Drama
- Satire
- Literal

Outline

The Courtship (Song of Solomon 1:2-3:5)

The woman feels insecure about her desirability (Song of Solomon 1:5-7)

Solomon offers jewelry only to enhance her beauty (Song of Solomon 1:9-11)

Their love blossoms as the spring (Song of Solomon 2:8-15)

The woman feared losing her lover (Song of Solomon 3:1-5)

The Wedding of Solomon (Song of Solomon 3:6-5:1)

Procession to the bride's home (Song of Solomon 3:6-11)

The groom praises his bride's appearance (Song of Solomon 4:1-5)

Desire is expressed for one another (Song of Solomon 4:6-11)

The groom delights in his bride's purity (Song of Solomon 4:12-15)

The consummation of their love (Song of Solomon 5:1)

The Maturing Marriage (Song of Solomon 5:2-8:14)

A Problem (Song of Solomon 5:2-6:1)

A Reconciliation (Song of Solomon 6:2-13)

A Passionate Exchange (Song of Solomon 7:1-13)

A Public Expression of Affection (Song of Solomon 8:1-4)

Closing Comments About True Love (Song of Solomon 8:6-7)

God created love to be stronger than _____.

True love cannot be _____.

True love cannot be _____ with money.

True love continues to _____.

1 John 4:7-10