





*The Meaning  
of Life*

*Ecclesiastes 1:3-11*



*What's the Point?*

# *Starting Over*



**What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything of which one can say, “Look! This is something new”? It was here already, long ago; it was here before our time. No one remembers the former generations, and even those yet to come will not be remembered by those who follow them.**

**Ecclesiastes 1:9-11**



# *Chasing the Wind*

*“This too is meaningless,  
a chasing after the wind.”*

# *Who is the Teacher?*



**The words of the Teacher, son of David,  
king in Jerusalem:**

**Ecclesiastes 1:1**

**The author never identifies themselves by name**

**He also identifies as being the son of King David**

**David had 19 sons mentioned by name in the Bible**

**He also had 2 more that were mentioned but not by name**

# *King Solomon*



**Then David comforted his wife Bathsheba, and he went to her and made love to her. She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon. The Lord loved him.**

**2 Samuel 12:24**

# *King Solomon*



**His mom is none other than Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11)**

**David Declared Him King (1 Kings 1:30)**

**God granted him wisdom (1 Kings 3:12)**


**God also made him successful (1 Kings 3:13)**

**What's This Got to Do with In not Of?**

*Everything!*



# *In the World but not of the World*




**Solomon was not just some rich king that lived long ago**

**He was the King of God's people**

**While Israel was one nation among many on the planet  
*(In the world)***

**God call them out to be his people and to be different  
*(Not of the World)***

# In the World but not of the World



***1 Kings 3:14*** -- And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life.”

## *He Failed*

***1 Kings 3:3*** -- Solomon showed his love for the Lord by walking according to the instructions given him by his father David, except that he offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places.

# *In the World but not of the World*



**Did Solomon do great things for God? Absolutely**

**However, he also allowed his heart to turn**

## *Except*

**By the time we reach the end of his life the kingdom of Israel will end up being divided much like Solomon's heart**

# *Chasing the Wind*



**Solomon had lived his life for everything and anything**

**He had studied, worked, and partied like there was no tomorrow**

**Now old man Solomon is looking back on his life, and this is what he sees...**



# *Meaningless*

*Ecclesiastes 1:12-18*

# Meaningless



**It is Depressing**

**It is also Enlightening**

**Unlike Forrest who went where the wind blew, here we have a man that set out on journey to discover the meaning of life**

**He chased after many of the things we chase after:**

***Pleasure, Knowledge and Understanding, Success, Legacy, and Riches***

# *Chasing the Wind*



**He said, “I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.”**

***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***

A close-up photograph of a blue feather, showing its intricate barbs and fine structure. The feather is the central focus, set against a soft, out-of-focus background that appears to be a sunset or sunrise with warm, pastel colors. The text "What are You Chasing?" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a stylized, cursive font with a white outline and a slight shadow.

*What are You  
Chasing?*