

A.M. — *Why On Earth Am I Here?*

- I. Solomon seemingly grappled with these questions... (Eccl 1.2-11; cf. 3.1-8)
 - A. And searched for enduring satisfaction...
 1. In secular education (1.12-18,17-18; cf. 2.12-17)
 2. In carnal pleasures and material possessions (2.1-10; cf. 1Kgs 10.14-29; 11.3; Eccl 2.18-23)
 3. But without success... (3.18-20; 4.2-3)
 - B. Solomon identified the real issue... (7.29)
 - C. The solution, Solomon concludes...
 1. Not in arbitrarily shunning all earthly pursuits... (11.8a, 9a, 10)
 2. But throughout life, giving place to the will of God... (11.9b; 12.1, 13-14)
- II. Life's real meaning and purpose...
 - A. Only found when God is given His place in our lives — when we seek, above all else, to glorify Him!
 - B. Because this is the very purpose for which we were created. (cf. Is 43.7)
 - C. When we sin (i.e. transgress the will of God), we fail that noble purpose — we “fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3.23). And we all do...
 - D. With dire consequences... (Rom. 6.23a)
 - E. But this same verse also offers a message of hope — “but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 6.23b; cf. 5.6-11)
 - F. And Paul goes on to tell us exactly how we can enjoy these great spiritual blessings... (6.3-4; cf. 8.1; Mk 16.16; Ac 2.38; 8.36-39; 22.16)
- III. So we urge you today, “Fear _____ and keep His _____” (Eccl 12.13).