

YAGH
Ecc 9:1-3
The Hand of God

8/11/25

Review

1. The challenge to understand that there are no answers to the paradoxes of life
2. Human approaches to these paradoxes are not great, as they are limited
 - a) Seeking enjoyment
 - b) Seeking human wisdom
3. The best approach is to trust in God and His work/will/ways
 - a) His ways are truly profound Isa 55:8
 - b) But we can learn to trust in His ways.

Life in the hand of God

"For I considered all this in my heart, so that I could declare it all: that the righteous and the wise and their works are in the hand of God. People know neither love nor hatred by anything they see before them." Ecc 9:1

1. Solomon's thoughts
 - a) Carefully considered all things in his heart
 - b) He also sought to declare them
2. The righteous and the wise
 - a) Solomon made a special reference to this group
 - b) Made up of those who were righteous and wise
3. All in the hands of God
4. People are limited in their knowledge and experience

One event happens to all

All things come alike to all: "One event happens to the righteous and the wicked; to the good, the clean, and the unclean; to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As is the good, so is the sinner; he who takes an oath as he who fears an oath." Ecc 9:2

1. The one event that happens to all is death
2. This is the grim reality of death

Death happens to all

"This is an evil in all that is done under the sun: that one thing happens to all. Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead." Eccl 9:3

1. Death and evil
2. But the hearts of men are full of evil
3. After which, death comes
4. The challenge is to have the wisdom to face this reality

Lessons to be learned

1. Understand that death happens to all
2. See it as an evil that we cannot escape
3. The challenge is for us to be righteous and wise
4. We can have faith in the hand of God
 - a) God is in control of everything
 - b) Our times are in the hand of God Ps 31:14,15
"But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord; I say, "You are my God." My times are in Your hand"