

**Review**

1. Understand that death happens to all
2. Solomon saw it as an evil
3. The challenge is for us to be righteous and wise
  - a) God is involved in the life of the righteous and wise
  - b) Our blessing in being righteous and wise
4. We can have faith in the hand of God

**Hope for the living**

1. Flashes of understanding
2. Hope in living  
"But for him who is joined to all the living there is hope," Ecc 9:4
3. No hope when one is dead

**Comparisons between the living and the dead**

1. A living dog is better than a dead lion  
"For a living dog is better than a dead lion." Ecc 9:4
2. The living are better than the dead  
"For the living know that they will die; but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten." Ecc 9:4
  - a) The living know things, but the dead know nothing
  - b) The living have a reward, but the dead do not
  - c) The living are remembered, but the dead are forgotten
3. Common things in life  
"Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; nevermore will they have a share in anything done under the sun. Ecc 9:6
  - a) The living will experience common things, but the dead do not
  - b) The living can share, but the dead cannot

## **Enjoying the things of life**

### 1. Joy in what we consume

"Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has already accepted your works." Eccl 9:7

- a) Eating bread
- b) Drinking wine

### 2. Joy in how we dress

"Let your garments always be white, and let your head lack no oil." Eccl 9:8

- a) Dressed in white garments
- b) Grooming of the hair

### 3. Joy in living with the wife

"Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity;" Eccl 9:9

- a) Learning to live with our wives
- b) God has given us life

### 4. Joy in our portion in life

"For that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun." Eccl 9:9

- a) To understand and appreciate our portion in life
- b) To enjoy the common things of life

## **Conclusion**

1. Thankful for the things that God has blessed us with in life
2. Hope in having these blessings in life
3. Appreciate the portion (inheritance) that we have in life
4. Heartfelt gratitude to God