

Solomon "tried it all" in his quest for excitement and contentment. He describes his search in Ecclesiastes chapter 1.

- pleasure -sex -substances
- -entertainment risk FUN
- -real estate -business -agriculture
- -banking -science FORTUNE
- -slaves -politics -public works **FAME**

DISAPPOINTMENTS

1. Our <u>desires</u> are incessant and endless ... never satisfied or satiated (1:8)

2. People <u>seldom learn</u> from the mistakes of others ... tragedies repeated (1:9)

3. Our "shining moment" is little **noted** nor long **remembered**. (1:11)

I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That a person may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all their work, this is the gift of God. (3:12-13)

No matter what kind of "work" you do, see it in terms of the GOOD it accomplishes. Your "product" improves someone's life. Understanding this and appreciating this causes work to be **fulfilling**. In fact, this ability to find satisfaction in work is not a byproduct of work but a gift from God.

REJOICE in your YOUTH

Be excited about your own unique <u>vision</u>, the <u>possibilities</u> which you can see!

Use your <u>talent</u>, make a <u>contribution</u>, get <u>involved</u> in God's life ... now!

Do not let the anticipated responsibilities of adulthood cause **fear** and **anxiety**!

Refuse to mingle <u>only</u> with your own age group. <u>Fellowship</u> with old people. <u>Serve</u> old people.

- a) Appreciation of your own vitality!
- b) Learn invaluable lessons!

REMEMBER your CREATOR

- ✓ Before the heartbreaks and troubles of older years <u>steal</u> enthusiasm
- ✓ Before your body <u>declines</u>
- Before death ends your <u>earthly</u> opportunity to serve and celebrate God

