

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

- **Four Introductory Considerations**

1. This passage should be considered as part of the larger text of Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26.
2. What is *hedonism*?
3. Notice how many times the words “I”, “my”, “me”, and “myself” appear in our text.
4. This emphasis indicates a s_____ and i_____ approach to pleasure.

- **A Very Long Conclusion**

1. The author shares with us in verses 1-2 and 9-11 the result of his quest to follow a life of pleasure. What is that conclusion?
2. Why does the author indicate his wisdom remained with him even during this quest (verse 9 and 1:16-18)?
3. The author also reminds us he had great f_____ and p_____ as he pursued pleasure (verse 9).
4. Does this passage teach us that finding pleasure in this life is both sinful and impossible (consider verse 10, 2:24-25, 9:7, I Timothy 4:4, I Timothy 6:17)?

- **Things That Bring Temporary Pleasure**

Consider our author's list and how they apply to Solomon, to our society as a whole, and to us as individuals.

1. W_____ (various verses in Proverbs)
 2. H_____ (I Kings 7:1 and 8)
 3. Great B_____ Works – “a secular G_____ of E_____”
I Kings 4:33)
 4. S_____ (I Kings 4:24-25)
 5. A_____ - a sign of w_____ and a source for f_____ (I
Kings 4:22-23 and 33)
 6. W_____ (I Kings 10:21-25)
 7. M_____ (I Kings 4:33)
 8. S_____ (I Kings 11:3)
- **The Only Source of Lasting Pleasure: Following Jesus (Mark 8:34-37 and 10:28-31)**