LET'S TALK ABOUT WORSHIP

Coming To Terms With Reality - Part 6

Pastor Morris Barnett

July 7, 2019

**Ecclesiastes 5:4 (NIV)**
When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

Eccl. 5:1-7

So much of this ancient journal is horizontal musing, the bitter and barren side of life seen through the eyes of a cynic — Solomon himself. But on a few, rare occasions, the book is punctuated with remarkable vertical insights that scrape away the façade of empty religion and drive us back to the reality of a meaningful relationship with God. Ecclesiastes 5:1 – 7 allows the Christian to take a few steps away from occupational involvements and into the Lord’s presence

 . . . to worship and focus on Him. What’s to be remembered? How are we to think and respond?

1. THE WORD OF GOD: HOPE FOR OUR TIMES

**Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)**
For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

What the Word of God does:

* **It Pierces**
* **Is Able To Judge**

**Hebrews 4:13 (NIV)**
Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Why God's Word Works:

* **It Is Universal In Scope**
* **It Is Limitless In Its Exposure**

2. THE WORSHIP OF GOD: TRUTH FOR OUR MINDS

**Ecclesiastes 5:1 (NIV)**
Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong.

What You Need to Do in Worship and Why:

* **Draw Near And Listen Well, Because God Is Communicating** (Eccl. 5:1)
* **Be Quiet And Stay Calm, Because God Hears Inaudible and Sees The Invisible** (Eccl. 5:2-3)
* **Keep Your Commitments, Because God Accepts Them And Doesn’t Forget Them** (Eccl. 5:4-5)
* **Don’t Decide Now And Deny Later, Because God Doesn’t Ignore Decisions** (Eccl. 5:6-7)

We shouldn’t pretend to worship while we’re really chattering or daydreaming, making hasty commitments or backing out of obligations. In short, Solomon warns us not to treat God like a chump just because we can’t see Him. Remember that the sword of the Spirit is living and active and will cut through all of our false fronts and fake devotion. Are you fearing God in your worship and devotion and honoring Him in your commitments?