



ECCLESIASTES

A RETROSPECTIVE WARNING

What About Evil?
Ecclesiastes 4:1-3

SUNDAY, March 6, 2022

DISCUSSION GUIDE

We're in the middle of our Ecclesiastes: A Retrospective Warning series. In the fourth chapter of Ecclesiastes, we see ruthless oppression. Or to put it another way—a lot of evil. Even today, there just seems to be a lot of EVIL in the world. And you may or may not know this but “evil in the world” is one of the greatest objections people have regarding belief in God. It makes people ask two significant questions regarding the existence of an all-powerful and good God: 1) is there actually a God (if there is a God, why does evil exist?) and 2) is God good, and is He really all-powerful? Or put another way, if God is good and if He's all powerful, why do bad things happen? This week, we see how God is sovereign and in the midst of all our pain, rest assured that our God reigns.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. If you're with a CV Life Group, talk with them about anything you found memorable or confusing.
2. Have you ever found yourself at a point in life where you looked back and thought, I wish I had done things differently?
3. Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-3. Notice the use of the word oppression repeatedly. What comes to mind when you hear that word?
4. What does Solomon observe regarding oppression?
5. Can you think of any Scriptures that show us Jesus' heart toward oppression (think of His interactions with individuals who were suffering)?
6. What would you tell a friend who is currently experiencing hardship or suffering?
7. Pastor Neal mentioned that Solomon forgot two things when he wrote these verses. Read Psalm 86:7, 17 and Jude 14-15 to recall what they were.
8. What do we know about evil and the evil one according to scripture? Read Ephesians 2:2, 2 Corinthians 2:11, 2 Corinthians 4:4.
9. Read 2 Peter 3:9. Why doesn't God just come back and end all oppression and injustice now?
10. What's one thing you learned from Sunday's message and today's discussion that will help you become a better disciple of Christ, and help others do the same?

Now What?

This week, meditate on Psalm 34.

