

Date: 11 December 2022

Speaker: Preacher James Tan

Topic: What is Truly Good in this World?

Text: Ecclesiastes 3:12-15

1. True goodness is found in God's gift (v. 12-13). When Solomon observed this world, he saw there was nothing good in it. Since the fall of men, all things have plunged into darkness. How do we discern enjoyment in this life?

2. **To rejoice** (v12): A divine rejoicing that begins at salvation that never ends. We must rejoice in the wonderful gift of salvation.

**To do good** (v12): This follows after salvation. Let everything be done in the name of the Lord. It is good because it is what God directs us to do. Let our lives reflect the goodness of the Lord.

**Eat and drink & Enjoy the good of all his labour** (v13): This comes from God's providence. While we enjoy the pleasures of this world, God reminds us to remember who is the one who provides. All that we have in this life comes from God. Do not live an empty life. God has given so much of his goodness and providence, yet we sometimes abuse it. It is a good thing to labour. Yet, do not forget our spiritual labour, which is far more important.

3. Know the goodness of God's plan (v14-15). Whatever He has done, there is an eternal purpose to it. Despite how wicked and evil this world is, God has still been good and long-suffering toward us. Point others to the eternal God- be concerned for the souls of fellow men! There are only two outcomes- eternal salvation or eternal condemnation. Do we point people to eternal life? We are not in control of anything. Remember, our eternal salvation is secure because no man can pluck us out of God's hand.

4. All that has been prophesied has come to pass. Even things that shall come have already been revealed to us. "God requireth that which is past" (v15)- we stand before God in judgement- do you not fear Him? We are accountable to God's Word. Obey His will for us and submit ourselves to Him.

*How have we responded to God's goodness? Do we reflect God's goodness in our lives? Remember, we shall be judged.*