

Section 6, Promises About Preparation
Introductory Article
540 words

Promises About God's Preparation: Introduction

While the larger part of King Solomon's wisdom came as a gift from God, not a small amount came from his own hard living. While his heaven-won wisdom qualified him to rule over Israel, it was his hard-won wisdom—that of the bruised shin and banged knuckle variety—that qualified him to rule over his impulses.

By the time he wrote Ecclesiastes, Solomon's five senses had sampled everything within his grasp. He lost count of his wives, concubines, horses, gold, silver, and servants. There was nothing he wanted that he did not have—except satisfaction. Finally, near the end of his life, he wrote about his quest for satisfaction and the wisdom he had gained from his search. In chapter three of Ecclesiastes, he reveals why nothing in this life can satisfy—why people made for eternity grow weak trying to live on a diet of time. Solomon finally realized that, though there is in this life a time for everything (so stop grasping!), it is only in eternity that we will ultimately be satisfied. God, Solomon concluded, “has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men . . .” (Ecc. 3:11). He realized, “I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it” (Ecc. 3:14). And because the creation of humans is the most important thing God has “done” on this earth, they—every human being—“will endure forever.” Eternity has been put in our hearts by our Creator. It is when people made for eternity try to live in time alone that they discover dissatisfaction.

Many people are on the path Solomon was on for much of his life. They are the ones who identified so closely with a pop tune from the 1960's, the lyrics of which asked, “What's it all about?” They are trying to be satisfied in time not knowing that they were made for eternity. They have not gained the eternal perspective on life which then frees them, like it did Solomon, to enjoy their time on earth instead of being frustrated by it. Discovering that God has something prepared for us that far exceeds our experience on earth is one of the most liberating discoveries a Christian can make.

This section of the Promises of God Bible can help you discover what God has prepared for those who believe in him. You will find God's promises concerning eternity for the believer (as well as eternity for those who do not believe) and what happens after death. You'll discover promises about the certainty of Jesus Christ's return to earth, and his plan to reward those who have lived faithfully for him. You'll also learn how Satan, and all vestiges of evil, will be eradicated, and how a new heaven and earth will be created. And finally, you will read about your eternal home in heaven—the place earth was intended to be and will ultimately become.

If you're feeling a little banged up from trying to squeeze more satisfaction out of life than it has to offer, let these promises about God's preparation change your perspective. Looking at life through eternity-colored glasses will keep everything in focus.