

The Conclusion of the Matter Notes

Ecclesiastes 12:9-14

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Main Point: The end of the matter is to focus on eternal matters.

Reflect on the Bible _____ (vs 9-12).

1. The Bible is to be _____ (vs. 9).
 - His heart was to teach “knowledge,” which refers to “_____ and insight.”
 - Before writing things down, he “weighed” his words, which means he “_____ and considered.”
 - The word “studying” speaks of “scouting or _____ out.”
 - He also “arranged many proverbs” which means he “set them in _____.”
 - A proverb is an earthly saying containing heavenly _____, or a practical word for a complicated world.
 - We must study the scriptures carefully and consistently, pondering the Word so we can live it out in our lives.
2. The Bible _____ (vs. 10).
 - The word “delight” refers to “_____ or pleasure.”
3. The Bible _____ (vs. 10)
 - The Bible provides _____ we can count on.
 - It’s important to be truthful about sin and _____ toward sinners.
 - We must reject salad-bar theology where we just pick and choose what is palatable to us (Proverbs 22:21).
4. The Bible _____ (vs. 11)
 - God uses His Word to keep us from going _____.
 - A goad is a long wooden rod with a sharp iron point used to mobilize and _____ livestock to get them moving and to steer them in the right direction.
 - Without the pain, there is no gain, and without the prodding, we would go down a _____ path (Acts 26:14).
5. The Bible _____ (vs. 11).
 - This refers to tent _____ which kept a tent from being blown away by the wind.
 - The word “fixed” means, “to be _____” (Ephesians 4:14).
6. The Bible is _____ (vs. 11).
 - The picture of God as _____ is found throughout Scripture (Isaiah 40:11).
 - The Holy Spirit supernaturally _____ the authors of the Bible to the exact words God wanted to communicate (2 Peter 1;21).
 - While God used over 40 different human authors, the Scriptures all come from “one _____.”

- Therefore, the Bible is inerrant, infallible, and _____.
7. The Bible is _____ (vs. 12).
- The sufficiency of Scripture means the Bible is all we _____ to be equipped for a life of faith and faithful service.
 - We're prohibited from _____ to the Bible or subtracting from it in Revelation 22:18-19.
 - All we need to know about God, salvation, and how to live a godly life is found in the Bible.
 - The Bible was given for our _____.

_____ **God above all** (vs. 13)

1. The Bible tells us to love God and His Word 88 times, to trust God and His Word 91 times, while we are exhorted to fear God _____ times!
2. We've defined the fear of God as "reverential awe" or "trembling trust."

Resolve to _____ right away (vs. 13).

1. We're to take God seriously and _____ what He says.
2. Jesus summed up all the commandments with two central ones (Matthew 22:37-40).
3. Joshua 24:14 links fearing God with _____ Him faithfully.
4. The word "keep" has the idea of being careful to obey.
5. The "whole duty of man" is translated in the NASB as "this applies to every person" or more literally, "this is the all of man."

Ready yourself for _____ (vs. 14).

1. Everyone will be answerable to the Almighty for everything, even those things we do in _____ because God keeps meticulous records (1 Corinthians 4:5, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Hebrews 9:27).
2. The good news is Jesus absorbed the Father's _____ on the cross, taking the judgment you deserve by exchanging your rottenness for His righteousness.
3. You must _____ and receive what He has done for it to be activated in your life.
4. The final message of Ecclesiastes is not that nothing matters, but that _____ does!
5. You were made for _____.