I. FIRST, HE RESTATES THE THEME OF ECCLESIASTES.

A. He initially revealed the theme in 1:2.

B. Now at the close of this book he restates it--12:8.

C. What does he mean by saying everything is meaningless?

   1. First, he means the “things” of this world.

      a. Pleasure is meaningless--Ecc. 2:1.

      b. Personal accomplishment is meaningless--Ecc. 2:4 and 2:11.

      c. Human wisdom and learning is meaningless--Ecc. 2:15b.

      d. Money and the things money can buy are meaningless--Ecc. 5:10.

   2. Second, Solomon means living a life apart from God is meaningless--Mark 8:36.

   3. On the other hand, if we have personal relationship with God life has great meaning--John 10:10.

II. SECOND, SOLOMON STATES HIS INTENTIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

A. First, he will continue to share with others what he has learned--9a.

B. Second, he will continue to learn himself--9b.

III. FINALLY, SOLOMON SHARES THE MEANING OF LIFE HE HAS FOUND.

A. The meaning of life, according to Solomon, is twofold--Ecclesiastes 12:13.

B. What does Solomon mean?

   1. What does it mean to “fear God?”

      a. It doesn’t mean to cringe or run from God.

      b. Rather it means to honor God and be awed by Him.
c. Further, it means to revere God rather than to fear Him.

d. In another of Solomon’s writings he states it’s importance—Proverbs 1:7.

2. What does it mean to keep God’s commandments?

a. It means to live life God’s way, not our own way.

b. It’s proof that we really know God—1 John 2:3-4.

c. It also demonstrates that we love God—1 John 5:3.

d. It also demonstrates that we love God’s Son—John 14:15.