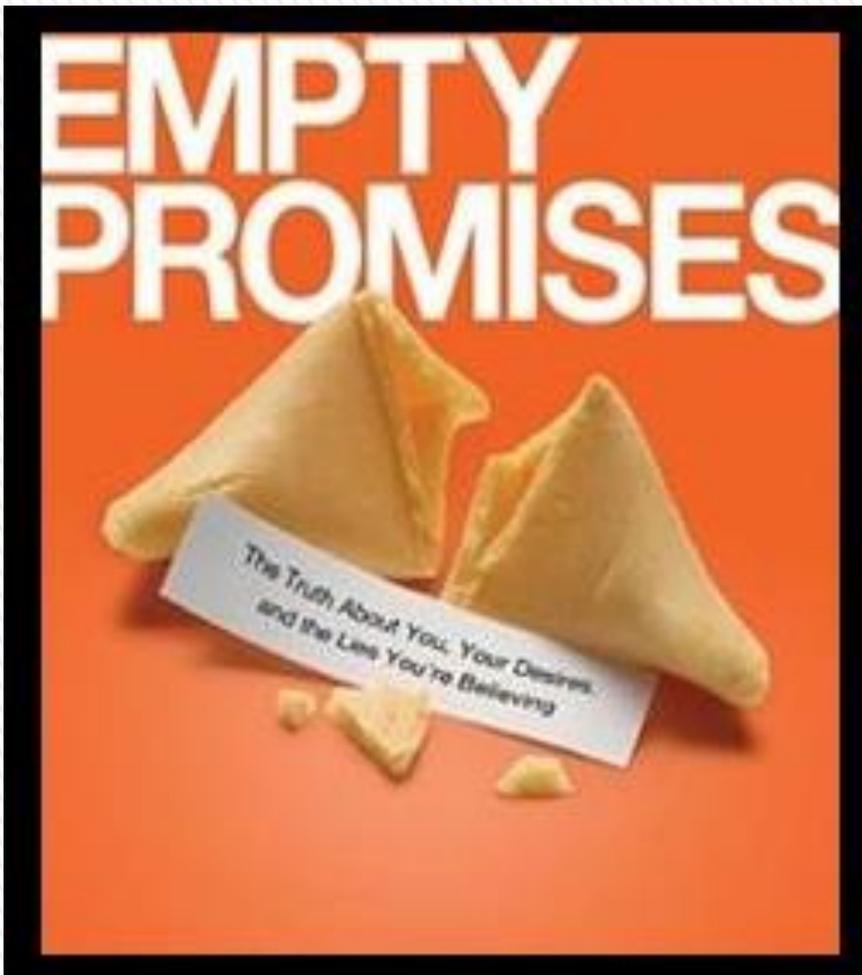


Why go to church?



#6

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

Sermon: Gary Olsen, Lead Pastor, Dr. Ministry

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

¹ Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong.

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

² Do not be quick with your mouth,
do not be hasty in your heart
to utter anything before God.

God is in heaven
and you are on earth,
so let your words be few.

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

³ A dream comes when there are many cares, and many words mark the speech of a fool.

⁴ When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.

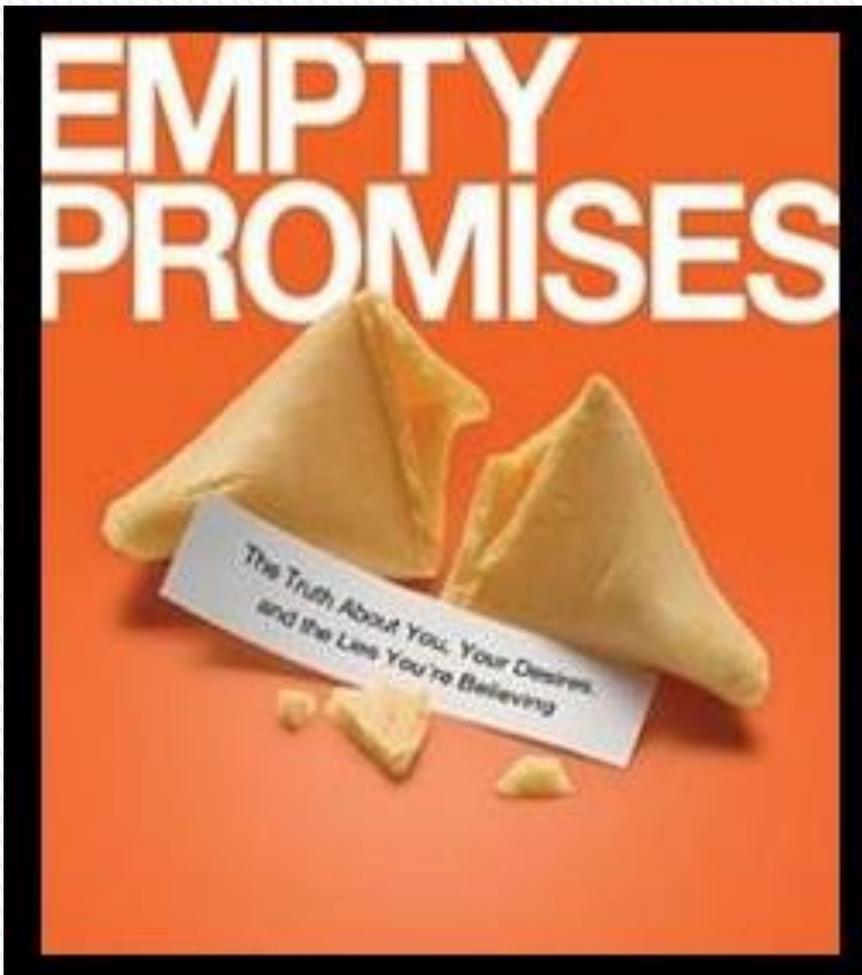
⁵ It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it.

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

⁶ Do not let your mouth lead you into sin.
And do not protest to
the temple messenger,
“My vow was a mistake.”

Why should God be angry
at what you say and destroy the work of
your hands?

⁷ Much dreaming and
many words are meaningless.
Therefore fear God.



#6

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

Sermon: Gary Olsen, Lead Pastor, Dr. Ministry

Ecclesiastes 5 NIV

¹ Guard your steps
when you go to the house of God.
Go near to listen rather than
to offer the sacrifice of fools ...

Ecclesiastes 5 NIV

⁴ When you make a vow to God,
do not delay to fulfill it.
He has no pleasure in fools;
fulfill your vow.

I Kings NIV

6¹⁴ So Solomon built the temple and completed it.

38 ... He had spent seven years building it.

7⁴⁸ Solomon also made all the furnishings that were in the LORD's temple

1 Kings NIV

8²² Then Solomon stood
before the altar of the LORD
in front of the whole assembly of Israel,
spread out his hands toward heaven
²³ and said: “LORD, the God of Israel,
there is no God like you
in heaven above or on earth below...

I Kings NIV

8⁶² Then the king
and all Israel with him
offered sacrifices before the LORD.

Psalm 72 NIV

Of Solomon.

¹ Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.

Psalm 127 NIV

A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

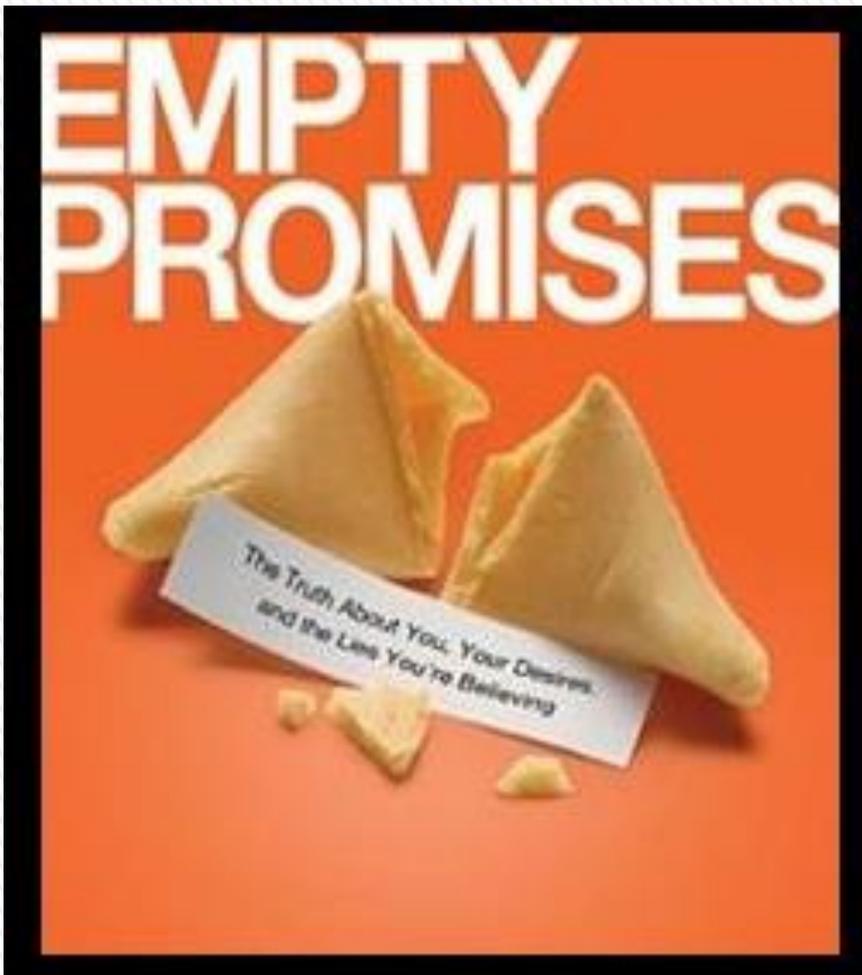
¹ Unless the LORD builds the house,
the builders labor in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.

Ecclesiastes 5 NIV

¹ Guard your steps
when you go to the house of God.
Go near to listen rather than
to offer the sacrifice of fools ...

² Do not be quick with your mouth,
do not be hasty in your heart
to utter anything before God.



#6

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

Sermon: Gary Olsen, Lead Pastor, Dr. Ministry

Ecclesiastes 7:29 The Voice

²⁹ Here is what I have figured out:
God made humanity for good,
but *we* humans go out
and scheme our way *into trouble*.

Ecclesiastes 7:29 NCV

²⁹ One thing I have learned:
God made people good,
but they have found
all kinds of ways to be bad.”

Chapter Titles: *Empty Promises* “Addicted to Approval”

Recognition
of an accomplishment,
of something we have done,
is the addictive drug.

-- Pastor Pete Wilson, *Empty Promises*

Chapter Titles: *Empty Promises*

“Addicted to Approval”

+ “The Seduction of Achievement”

+ “Addicted to Beauty [Appearance]”

+ “Religion Lies”

“Religion always adds.
... taking salvation, which comes
through faith in Jesus and
what he did on the cross alone, and ...
adding to it all these other rules and
regulations”

-- Pastor Pete Wilson, *Empty Promises*

“Every generation and every culture has been tempted to add something to the equation. For instance:

Jesus + full immersion = salvation

Jesus + communion this way = salvation

Jesus + this doctrine = salvation

Jesus + this music = salvation”

-- Pastor Pete Wilson, *Empty Promises*

“Whenever we add anything to the gospel,
we are denying the finished work
of Jesus Christ on the cross
Religion tends to take the focus
off of what Christ did and
to put the emphasis on our own effort”

-- Pastor Pete Wilson, *Empty Promises*

“It’s not Jesus plus anything
that gives salvation.

It’s not Jesus plus anything
that offers purpose, comfort, or security.

It’s not Jesus plus anything
that defines our identity.

It’s just Jesus.

Anything else is an empty promise.”

-- Pastor Pete Wilson, *Empty Promises*

Action Step #1

“Be still, and know that I am God”

Ecclesiastes 5 NIV

¹ Go near to listen ...

² Do not be quick with your mouth,
... so let your words be few.

³ ... many words mark the speech of a fool.

Psalm 46:10 NIV

He says, “Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.”

Action Step #2

Come in a little closer to Jesus

Ecclesiastes 5 *NIV*

¹ ... Go near to listen

Action Step #2

Come in a little closer to Jesus

A) Experience Jesus through Holy Week with your church family

+ Palm branch Sunday

+ Wednesday Lent movie

+ Good Friday
Stations
Tomb
Movie

+ Easter Sunday

Action Step #2

Come in a little closer to Jesus

B) Experience Jesus through
Holy Week at home

+ Holy Week disc

+ Easter@Home guide

+ Easter Drawing video

Action Step #2

Come in a little closer to Jesus

B) Experience Jesus through
Holy Week at home



Action Step #3

Come good on your commitment to God

Ecclesiastes 5 NIV

⁴ When you make a vow to God,
do not delay to fulfill it.

He has no pleasure in fools;
fulfill your vow.

John 12 NIV

¹² The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem.

¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him

Matthew 21 NIV

⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

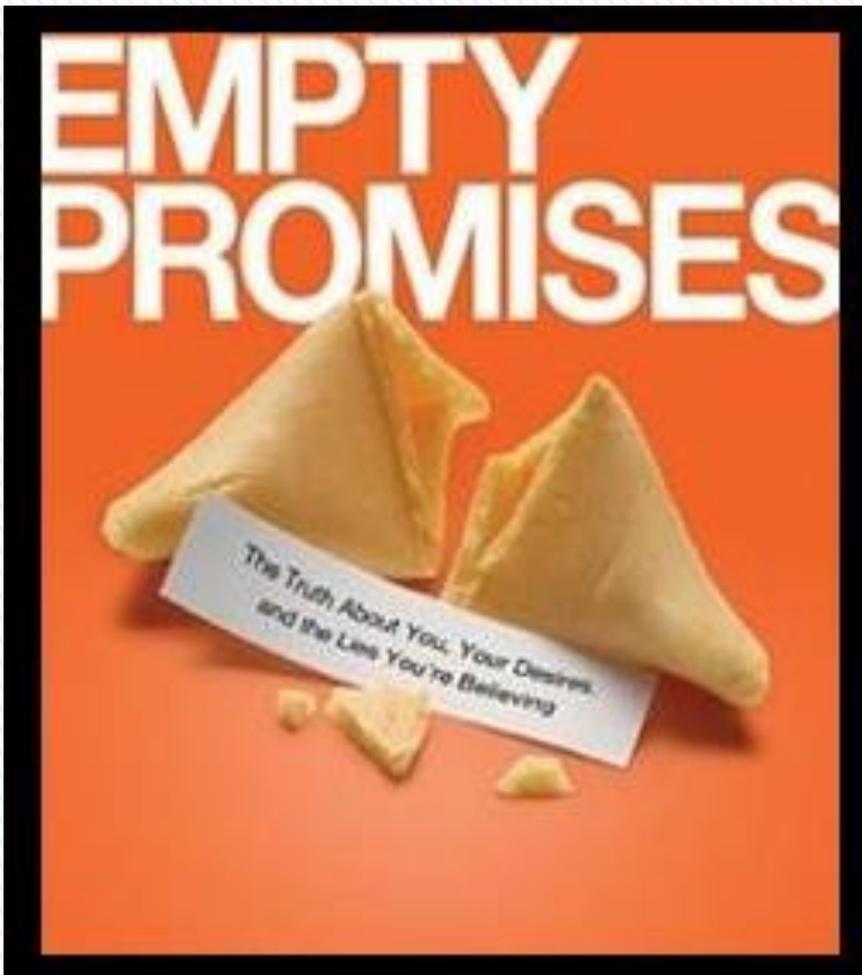
John 12 NIV

¹³shouting,

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!”

“Blessed is the king of Israel!”



#6

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 NIV

Sermon: Gary Olsen, Lead Pastor, Dr. Ministry