

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Ecclesiastes 1:1-10.**
- B. Even though Solomon said there is nothing new under the sun, he did not know about computers, cars, planes, air conditioners, or space travel.
- C. Solomon had other things in mind when he made this statement.
- D. In this fast paced ever changing world, some things stay the same.

I. NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN... IN REGARDS TO NATURE.

- A. Solomon (I will use him as the author based on 1:12) opens this book by saying the generations come and go, the wind blows, and the rivers flow; but everything remains the same.
- B. Scientists now recognize five basic components which make up the universe. These five things are mentioned in the very first verse of the Bible (Gen. 1:1). They are:
 - 1. Time (In the beginning...).
 - 2. Force (...God...).
 - 3. Energy (...created...).
 - 4. Space (...the heavens...).
 - 5. Matter (...and the earth...).God knew, what man has come to find out. Nothing has really changed, we have just discovered what God has known all along.
- C. Nothing new concerning the color spectrum.
 - 1. God put the rainbow in the sky as a promise to never again to destroy the earth by water (Gen. 9:1 1-14). In that rainbow are the seven basic colors from which all other colors come (white and black are not colors). There is nothing new under the sun in regards to color!
 - 2. You cannot make a new color, you just mix the colors that already exist!
- D. Nothing new concerning the sound spectrum.

True, animals can hear sounds that we cannot but there is a recognizable sound spectrum that for the most part has not changed.
- E. Nothing new concerning meteorology.
 - 1. We like the generations before us who lived after the flood experience wind, rain, storms, lightning, snow, and the change of seasons (Gen. 8:22).
"While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, And cold and heat, And summer and winter, And day and night Shall not cease."
 - 2. And as much as we might dislike winter (or summer), it will come nevertheless.
- F. Nothing new concerning the cycle of life (Eccl. 3:1-8).

People do the following on a regular basis:

1. Fail.	1. Succeed.
2. Have sorrow.	2. Are honored.
3. Labor in vain.	3. Achieve greater things (records are broken).
4. Worry.	4. Learn and improve themselves.
5. Have illnesses and disease.	5. Laugh and are joyful.
6. Die.	6. Reproduce after their own kind.
- G. Mankind has learned to control some things in his environment, but basically is still controlled by the elements since he/she is powerless to change them. We do not create any new laws of hydrodynamics, or gravity, or thermodynamics, etc., we just use what is there.

II. NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN... IN REGARDS TO SIN.

- A. Nothing new concerning sin.

Sin is as old as the human race. We fall into the same temptations and sins as did those who have gone on before us.

- B. Satan doesn't really have any new tricks. He just keeps lying to deceive (Jn. 8:44; Rev. 20:10).
(Jn. 8:44) You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.
(Rev 20:10) And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
- C. Nothing new concerning temptation.
 - 1. The basic temptations to sin are as follows (1Jn. 2: 15-17):
 - a. The lust of the flesh.
 - b. The lust of eye.
 - c. The boastful pride of life.
 - 2. These very things were even tried on X Himself (Mt. 14:1-11)!
 - 3. Paul told the Corinthians that every temptation that they would face would be one that is common to man, meaning no special cases or new items to come along! (1Cor. 10:13).
- D. Nothing new concerning the pattern of sin.
 - 1. Does it seem that in your lifetime that the sins of mankind have proceeded from bad to worse?
 - 2. Does it seem that society is more sinful today than it was 5 or 10 or 40 years ago? Yes it does! (2Tim. 3:13).
But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

III. NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN... IN REGARDS TO HUMAN NATURE.

- A. Now I'm talking both in the positive and negative realm.
 - 1. People murder one another... but society condemns it as being wrong.
 - 2. People steal from one another... but society condemns it as being wrong.
 - 3. People lie to each other... but society condemns it as being wrong.
- B. Think about the following: - .
 - 1. A good name is still rather to be chosen.
 - 2. Honesty is still the policy that we would like others to exhibit.
 - 3. Marriage is still held in honor.
 - 4. The family is still the basic unit of living that produces productive individuals.
 - 5. Civil law is a good thing when proper enforced and obeyed.

IV. NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN... CONCERNING THE GODLY WAY OF LIFE.

- A. Some write self-help books, teach life lessons, etc., but the best way of life is one that is centered in God.
- B. God is our element--when we live in Him (according to His ways) we function best and are the happiest.
- C. Jesus said, "I am THE way, THE truth and THE life..." He didn't say that He was a good way, or one of the ways, or even the best way (as if to compare to something else). He said that He was THE WAY (Jn. 14:6).
- D. I wish I had a nickel for every...
 - 1. ..."get rich quick scheme" that has been presented to me. And today I can't think of a single person who has come back and told me how that scheme made them wealthy--no one!
 - 2. ...for every miracle cure I heard about on TV, and even by the brethren. People pushing vitamins, mineral drinks, shoe inserts, magnets, etc.
 - 3. ...for every "new" doctrine that (really) only attempts to explain away true doctrine. The "new morality" as it was called--was just the same old immorality.
 It's amazing as a preacher all the things I have heard that people believe.
- E. Friends and brethren, there is nothing new under the sun. Let me tell you what works, because there is there is nothing new under the sun concerning God and His word.
 - 1. God loves the world... (Jn. 3:16).

2. The way of the transgressor is hard (Prov. 13:15).
*Good understanding produces favor,
 But the way of the treacherous is hard.*
3. And the soul that sins, it shall die (Ezek. 18:20).
4. JC came into the world to save sinners (1Tim. 1:15).
5. Jesus came that we might have life, and have it abundantly (Jn. 10:10).
6. Saul of Tarsus considered all his human accomplishments as dung in comparison with knowing X (Phil. 3:8). Why then are we still running after them?
More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,
7. Godliness mixed with contentment is great gain (1Tim. 6:6).
8. Only in X can you KNOW that you have eternal life (1Jn. 5:13).

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. In summation, there is nothing new under the sun in regards to:
 1. Nature.
 2. Sin.
 3. Human Nature.
 4. The Godly Way of Life.
- B. The life the works is still in X, for there one finds:
 1. All spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3).
 2. Peace that passes all understanding (Phil. 4:7).
 3. The assurance of food, clothing, and shelter (Mt. 6:33).
 4. The forgiveness of sins (Col. 2:14). ,
 5. The hope of eternal life (1Pet. 1:3-4).
- C. Some have said that the theme of the book of Ecclesiastes is "I am a fool, I repent." The bottom line is clear: 12:13. There is nothing new under the sun, everything outside of God is a vanity and a striving after the wind.
The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.
- D. Plan salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.