The Epilogue (12:9-14)

Introduction

Solomon's presentation about life, primarily from his own experiences & observations, is over. He will not present any more "paradoxes" re: inequity and injustice that need explaining. He has faithfully defended God against several forms of humanistic thinking and carnal behavior found "under the sun."

All that is left to do is offer the final conclusion that truly points man toward his purpose for existing. Heeding this conclusion brings everything into life in clearer focus. More importantly, it prepares one for eternity.

1) How does Koheleth begin to sum up his "credentials" re: his efforts to teach men? (v. 9) How does 1 Kings 4:32 offer additional information?

2) Dealing specifically with this book, how does the Preacher describe the efforts he put forth? (v. 10; cp. Prov. 10:32) Offer comments on *"delightful" [NASV]* or *"acceptable" [KJV, NKJV]*.

3) Using the spaces below, comment on how Solomon generally commends the faithful teaching of other men. (v. 11a)

"goads" _____

_____

_____

"well-driven nails" _____

_____

_____

4) Who does Solomon attribute as the Source of wise teaching? (v. 11b)

5) Despite their contributions, what warning is given re: the writings of men? (v. 12)

6) In what direction does Solomon point us toward finding meaning & purpose in life? (v. 13)

7) What should motivate every man toward life's true purpose? (v. 14)