

WHEN GOD IS A STRANGER

THE DEFICIENT THEOLOGY OF ECCLESIASTES

Ecclesiastes 1:13-15
Ecclesiastes 3:10-14
Ecclesiastes 3:18-21
Ecclesiastes 5:1-7
Ecclesiastes 6:1-2
Ecclesiastes 7:13-14
Ecclesiastes 9:1
Ecclesiastes 11:9
Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

THE LOVE OF GOD:

Psalms 23:6
Psalm 25:6-7
Psalm 26:3
Psalm 36:5, 7
Psalm 62:11-12
Psalm 63:3
Psalm 86:5
Psalm 103:8
Ephesians 1:18-19, 3:18-20
Romans 8:35-39

PAUL AND SOLOMON _____

2 Corinthians 4:17-18; 5:1-5

PAUL AND SOLOMON _____

John 14:21, 23

TRANSFORMED BY THE TRUTH

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. When bad things happen to good people, are you more likely to question God's power or His goodness? Why? When have you experienced this struggle most intensely?
2. What do the following verses from Ecclesiastes suggest about Solomon's view of God? 1:13-15; 3:10-14; 3:18-21; 5:1-7; 6:1; 7:13-14; 9:1; 11:9; 12:13-14.
3. What do these Psalms teach about God? 23:6; 25:6-7; 26:3; 36:5, 7; 62:11-12; 63:3; 86:5; 103:8.
4. Read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 and 2 Corinthians 5:1-5. How does the perspective of these passages help you to make sense of suffering? Do you find the truth in these passages comforting? Why or why not?
5. Read John 14:21 and John 14:23. Do you feel close to God? If not, do you think it is because of disobedience? What do you need to do to be more fully obedient to God?