

THE RAT RACE

- What is the “Rat Race”?
- Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding in things in life that: _____ !
- What can you miss in “the race”?
- Unless someone is able to live _____ in the _____ - the future is a hoax.
- How can someone beat the Rat Race?

SOLOMON’S WRESTLING**1. What ADVANTAGE is there if...**

- A. It N_____ E_____ (1:3)
- B. You are N_____ S_____ (1:8)
- C. Nothing is E_____ N_____ (1:9-10)

2. What POINT is there if...

- A. The Wise d_____ just like the Fool! (2:15)
- B. I will soon be F_____! (2:16)
- C. Someone else will end up with all that I gain in life – and he may be a fool and waste it all! (2:18)

3. What SENSE is there if...

- A. When I increase in wisdom and knowledge – only to have P_____ increase as well?
- B. A person with no H_____ works hard only to leave all he has to strangers?
- C. We find W_____ in the place where we should find Justice and Righteousness?
- D. God lets people become wealthy but not the ability to _____ it?
- E. The Race, Battle, and Wealth **DO NOT** go to the S_____, S_____, and W_____?

SOLOMON’S WISDOM

In his search, Solomon concluded that: **Life is HARD and UNFAIR – so He hated life**

– Until he chose again to F_____ God and put Him in the center of his life and He taught Him to...

1. Chose CONTENTMENT in what I H_____ (2:24-26)

- Phil. 4:10-13 “I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am in”
- > Key question: what does it take for ME to be content?

2. Chose CONTENTMENT in E_____ S_____ of Life (Chapter 3)

- Ecc. 3:11 “He has made everything beautiful in it’s time”
- * Life runs on Parallel Tracks: with good and bad side by side
- * We must reject the thought that life starts w_____ I...
- > Key Question: what is keeping ME from enjoying THIS stage of life I am in right now?

3. Chose CONTEMENTMENT in N_____ K_____ E_____ (3:11, 8:17, 11:5)

- * To see and understand the BIG PICURE... would require someone who is outside of time and who has an unlimited ability to know and affect everything.
- > Key Question: Can I trust the character, nature, and power of God with every aspect of my life?