

**“Real Satisfaction”**  
**Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:14**  
**Sermon Series: “Unsatisfied”**

**Introduction:**

-Overview of the book and series from the perspective of Solomon’s testimony and “vanity of vanities” and “under the sun”

**Main Idea: We can experience real satisfaction by surrendering to Jesus so life can be lived with purpose and death can be faced with hope.**

**We do this by:**

**1. Realizing that life is empty without Jesus (Ecclesiastes 11:9-10).** God wants us to enjoy life and rejoice in Him and His good gifts, but joy is found in living accordance with His plan and emptiness comes from living with an “under the sun” philosophy in a sinful way.

-William MacDonald: “Without God, man must either fail miserably or succeed even more miserably.”

**2. Remembering our Creator now so we don’t waste our lives (Ecclesiastes 12:1-5).**

-Daniel Webster said, “The greatest thought I have ever had and the most important thing I have ever learned is that I am personally accountable to the God of all Creation.”

**3. Remembering our Creator now so we don’t face death without hope (Ecclesiastes 12:6-8).**

-Talk about the reality of death and how we want to avoid it or trivialize it and make it palatable and the biblical teaching about death and the curse.

-Jesus died to remove the curse (Galatians 3:13) and give us resurrection life (John 11:25).

-So, having meaning in life and hope in death is based on whether or not Jesus rose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:29-32). Jaroslav Pelikan said, “If Christ is risen-then nothing else matters. And if Christ is not risen-then nothing else matters.” Really, we are staking our lives and eternities on whether or not Jesus rose from the dead.

**4. Surrendering to Jesus the Shepherd and trusting Him as our Teacher, Savior, King, and Lord (Ecclesiastes 12:9-14).**

-We need to recognize that the “one Shepherd” is Messianic and refers to Jesus.  
-Ezekiel 37:24, John 10:10-18

**-It’s by surrendering that we find life (v. 13-14).** “Give up yourself, and you will find your real self. Lose your life and you will save it. Submit to death, death of your ambitions and favorite wishes every day and death of your whole body in the end submit with ever fiber of your being, and you will find eternal life. Keep back nothing. Nothing that you have not given away will be really yours. Nothing in you that has not died will ever be raised from the dead. Look for yourself, and you will find in the long run only hatred, loneliness, despair, rage, ruin, and decay. But look for Christ and you will find Him, and with Him everything else thrown in.” — CS Lewis, Mere Christianity

-Teacher (v. 9-12): We have tons of knowledge at our fingertips (“Google it”), but we need truth and wisdom, which is found in Jesus (John 8:31-32).

-Savior: Refer back to John 10

-King: “A greater than Solomon is here; Solomon as covenant head and Jesus as our King and covenant head, bring every part of life under the Kingship of Jesus

-Lord: “Fear God and keep His commandments,” Trust that Jesus’ way is best; Romans 10:9, Luke 6:46, Proverbs 19:23

**Conclusion: Proverbs 14:14**