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# FINDING YOUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

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**Shine the light on  
pleasures**

# God and Good

“And God said ... let there be ... And it was so ... And God saw it was good.”

**“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.”**

Shine the light on pleasures



# God and Good

“God, who provides us with everything to enjoy.” 1 Timothy 6:17

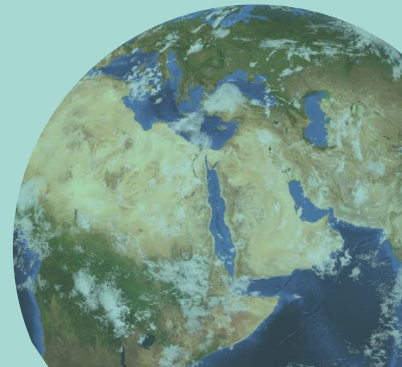
Shine the light on pleasures



# The World and Pleasures

- Why do we do this?
- Where does the money come from?

Shine the light on pleasures





# Christians and Pleasures

The Preacher tried ...

- learning (1:16-17)
- laughter
- liquor (2:1-3)
- luxury
- lust (2:4-8)

Shine the light on pleasures



# Christians and Pleasures

- **There are limits and boundaries that must be respected**
- **We need both perspective and decision**

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# Christians and Pleasures

“There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment?” (2:24-25, see also 3:12-13)

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# Christians and Pleasures

“Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.”

(5:18-19, see also 8:15)

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# Christians and Pleasures

“Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do. Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head. Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun.” (9:7-9)

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# Christians and Pleasures

“the “fear God” statements – 3:14; 5:7; 7:18; 8:12-13

“The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.” (12:13)

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## **Is all this a feature of my life or has it become the focus?**

- Is your pursuit or practice of what is fun causing you to neglect your commitment to God or hindering your walk with God?**
- Do you spend time, energy, and money on just having pleasures or do you use these to serve God and the people of God?**
- Are you enjoying the week or just living for the weekend?**
- Are you more concerned with being happy than with being holy?**