

# Ecclesiastes

4. Receive joy and give God glory

verses 15-17

## Finding Joy in our Sojourning

---

### ECCLESIASTES 8:1-17

#### Overview

God is clear that we are sojourners and exiles in this world (1 Peter 2:11). In many ways, we don't belong and are waiting for eternity in his visible presence. How do we navigate this life in the meantime? God is with you in it all. And in the moments of life, he wants you to fear him and enjoy his good gifts as he brings the world toward his intended aim.

#### Notes

1. Seek wisdom as an earthly citizen verses 1-5
2. Trust God in life's unknowns verses 6-9
3. Fear God amid prevalent injustice verses 10-14

#### Personal Application

How will you rely on God's provision to never give up?

#### Reflection Questions

1. In what ways does biblical wisdom give joy to God's people? Why do you think the Preacher started there?
2. Of the first three categories above, which is the most difficult to trust God in and find joy (submitting to government, navigating unknowns, or seeing injustice)?
3. As you face frustrations, how has God encouraged your heart amid temptations to give up or become cynical? What has he supplied that you hold on to in those moments of discouragement?
4. How is fearing God (verse 12) one remedy for not giving up in a broken world?
5. Why does the Preacher commend joy in verse 15? How can a Christian remain joyful when it seems like everything is falling apart in the world?
6. What is God putting on your heart to focus on as a result of this passage and discussion?