"The Peace/Vanity of Looking Forward and Looking Back"
Ecclesiastes 5:8-20

It is an amazing grace, a rare jewel, to have much wealth, skill, success, and wisdom and not be mastered by it. These things master us by publicly exalting us while privately killing us. Humility before God and others, a neediness before God and others, and submission before God and others, is the way to master much and not have it master us.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing." (2 Timothy 4:7-8); "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26)

- **Ecclesiastes 5:8-9:** *"Do not be amazed at the matter."*
    - *"For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God." (Romans 8:7-8)*
    - *"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed." (1 Peter 4:12-13)*

- **Ecclesiastes 5:10-12:** *"He who loves money will not be satisfied with money."*
    - *"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs." (1 Timothy 6:10)*
    - *"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." (Matthew 6:24)*

- **Ecclesiastes 5:13-17:** *"He has nothing in his hand."*
    - *"For I have learned, in whatever situation I am, to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need." (Philippians 4:11b-12)*
    - *"The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." (Job 1:21b)*

- **Ecclesiastes 5:18-20:** *"God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart."*
    - *"Do not be slothful in zeal, **be fervent in spirit**, serve the Lord." (Romans 12:11)*
    - *"But **godliness with contentment is great gain**, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content." (1 Timothy 6:6-8)*
    - *"Knowing that whatever good anyone does, this **he will receive back** from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free." (Ephesians 6:8)*
    - *"Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, 'It is **more blessed to give** than to receive.'" (Acts 20:35)*

Worship: What a Friend We Have in Jesus — *Various Artists* Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor — *Matt Boswell*

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** ***Angel Tree:*** Please see the November Newsletter for more information about this monthly donation collection!

★**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Men, the monthly Men's Breakfast is THIS Saturday, November 7th, at the Big Apple Café — Log Pond location, at 7am. If you plan on attending, please let Pastor Zach know (740)618-0739.

★**MEMBERS' MEETING:** We are having a Members' Meeting NEXT Sunday, November 8th, immediately following the worship service. This will be a short meeting, as we will be voting on the 2027 Church Budget. If you are a Church Member, we encourage you to please plan on staying for this meeting. Only current Church Members are able to vote at this meeting.

★**CHURCH GAME NIGHT:** Our Monthly Church Game Night is NEXT Sunday, November 8th, at Andy's house (1062 National Road SE; Hebron), starting at 5pm. Please bring your favorite board game or card game to play, and a food item to share with everyone. EVERYONE is invited to join us for this great time of fun and fellowship!

★*For all other announcements, please see the November Newsletter!*