

Questions On Ecclesiastes 8

1. How does wisdom affect one's "face" (and what does this mean?) v. 1
2. Several verses in this chapter speak of civil government. Verses 2-7 speak of responsibilities to civil kings (civil authorities). Verse two speaks of the *seriousness* of this duty. What does 1 Chronicles 29:24 say that the princes and mighty men did when Solomon became king?
 - a) According to Eccl. 8:2, Who else must be considered and is honored by this commitment?
 - b) What makes rebellion dangerous? (3)
 - c) Because of his authority, what should one *not do* to the king? (4)
 - d) What does one not have to fear or experience if he keeps the king's orders? (5)
 - e) What did God ordain *in the New Testament* about obeying civil government? (Romans 13:3-4; 1 Peter 2:14)
 - f) Verses 6 and 7 connect this duty of service to the king to the "time and order" passage of Eccl. 3:1-11. This would mean that submission to civil authority is simply a part of man's time on the earth. Therefore, one should not challenge civil authorities *unless what?* (Acts 4:29).
 - g) Verse 9 speaks of the possibility of a king (tyrant) ruling over others in a way that results in what?

- h) What king (close to Solomon) is a good example of this according to 1 Chronicles 12?
 - i) Verse 11 teaches what about the treatment (prosecution and punishment) of criminals?
3. The NASB and NIV have “wind” in place of “spirit” in verse 8, but the immediate context seems to favor “spirit” (especially when comparing 11:5). If this is correct, what power does man *not have* in the day of his death?
- a) From what “war” is there no “discharge?” (8)
4. Though it seems unfair, what sometimes happens with (for) evil people according to verses 12 and 14 (and as seen in 7:15)?
- a) Though it may not be apparent in this present life, what eventually happens to the wicked according to verse 13 and Eccl. 12:14?
5. Like 3:13 and 5:18-19, what does verse 15 teach about what one should enjoy during life under the sun?
6. As we saw in 3:11, what limitation is placed upon humans (even wise ones) according to verse 17?