

A sunset over a field of golden wheat. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and yellow, with the sun low on the horizon. The field in the foreground is a vibrant yellow, and there are some trees in the distance.

What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils **under the sun**? (Ecclesiastes 1:3)

I have seen everything that is done **under the sun**, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. (Ecclesiastes 1:14)

Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained **under the sun**. (Ecclesiastes 2:11)

So I hated life, because what is done **under the sun** was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind. (Ecclesiastes 2:17)

So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors **under the sun**, (Ecclesiastes 2:20)

Again I saw all the oppressions that are done **under the sun**. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. (Ecclesiastes 4:1)

So I hated life, because what is done **under the sun** was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind. (Ecclesiastes 2:17)

WHAT IF I...

- Acquire wealth?
- Gain knowledge/wisdom?
- Become powerful?
- Help others?
- Live morally?
- Have children and family?
- Pursue happiness?
- Work hard?

LIFE UNDER THE SUN

The evils of oppression

Deterioration of health

Disappearing legacy

Heartache & loss

Injustice & immorality

The endless cycle of
needs and wants

The precarious balance
of happiness

Petty foolishness

Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ **And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.** ²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. ²⁶ They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

If life under the sun seems so pointless, it is because it is pointing to a life **above the sun.**

He has made **everything beautiful in its time**. Also, He has put **eternity into man's heart**, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. (Eccl. 3:11)

The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is **the whole of man**.
(Ecclesiastes 12:13)

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”

(Jhn 11:23-24)

RESURRECTION: to cause to rise up and stand again from a fallen position

Jesus is referred to as the resurrection in Jhn 11:25

Baptism is a burial and resurrection in Rom 6:5

A new heaven and new earth in Rev 21:1-8

Our bodies will be resurrected in 1 Cor 15:42

Future resurrection is a required doctrine (see 2 Tim 2:18)

It is why Paul shared in Jesus’ sufferings (see Php 3:10)

It is our ultimate hope (see Acts 24:15; 23:6)

Heaven is described by Jesus as a resurrection – not merely a new life, but a life that is a replacement, correction, and answer for all that went wrong in the last one.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. (Rev 21:4)

Rev 22:3 No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will worship Him. ⁴ They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. ⁶ And He said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent His angel to show His servants what must soon take place."