

# The Happiness Code

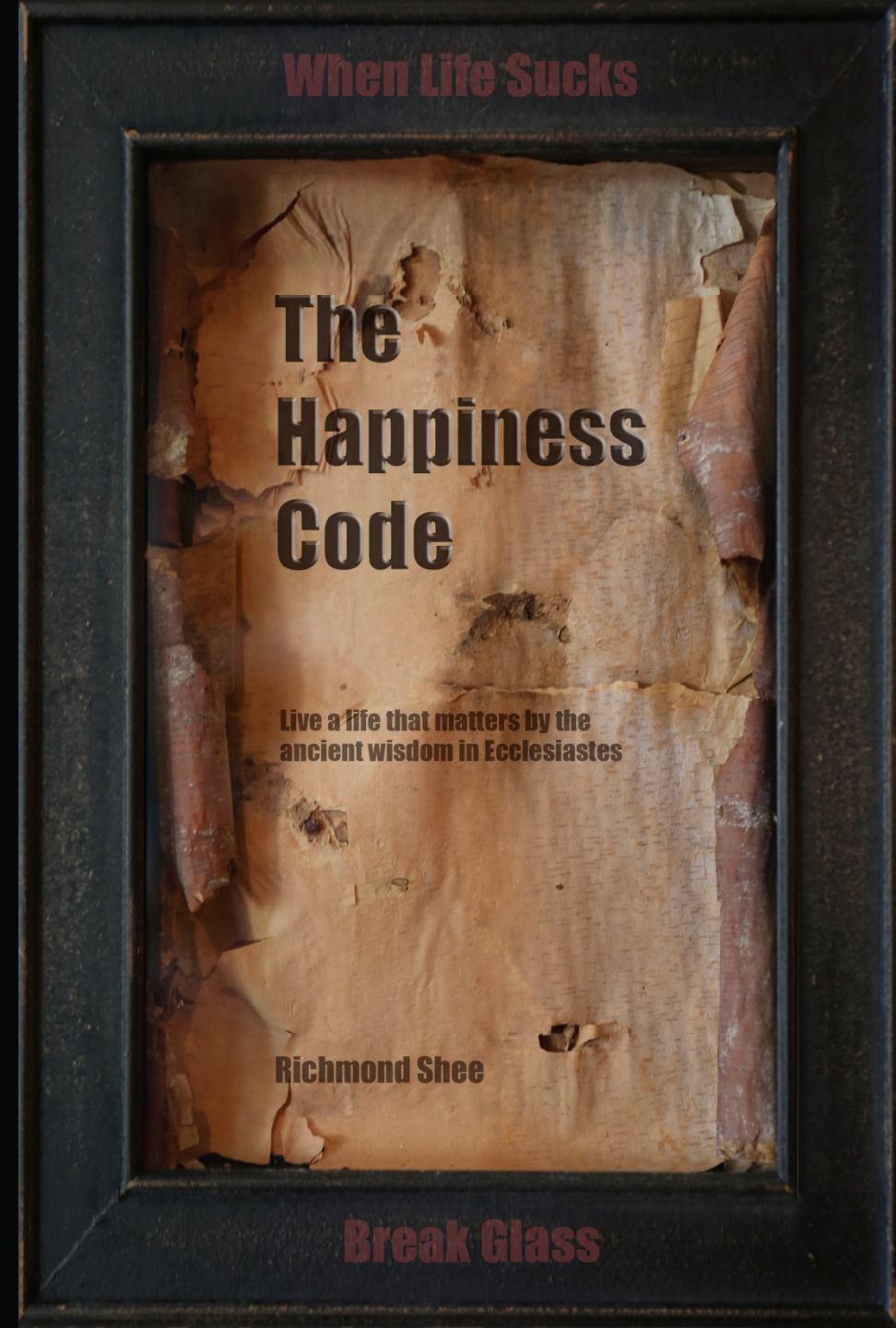
Week 2 – Vanity of Human  
Courses Under the Sun

Ecclesiastes 1:4-11



## Recap from Week #1:

- There is a tremendous value in learning from Solomon.
- You have landed on a planet “vanities of vanities.”
- There is nothing humans can do to be happy beside accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and serving Him.
- God challenges people to manufacture their own happiness and see how life will work out for them.





## Week #2: Level Set

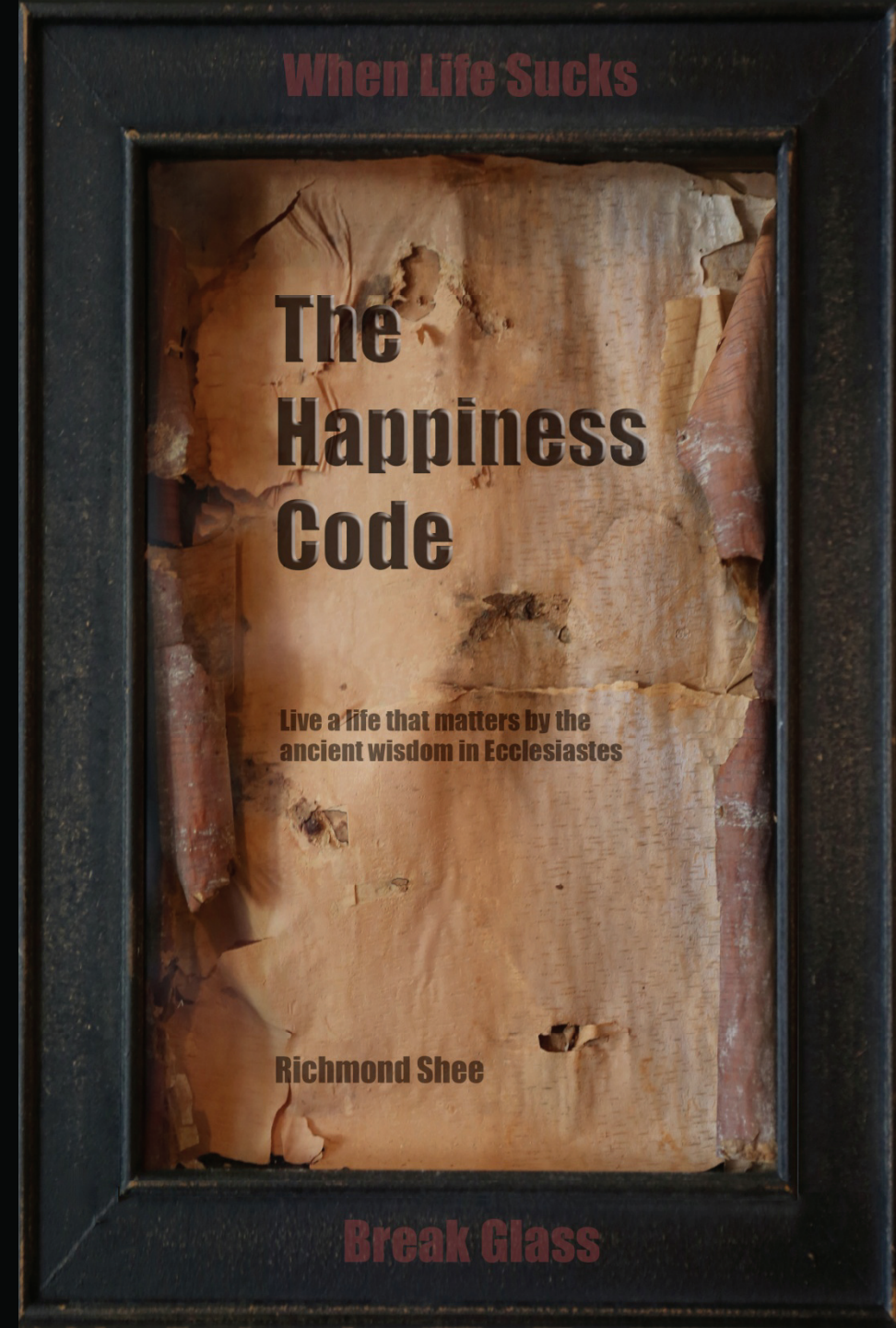
Vanity of Vanities?! What?!?!  
I don't believe it!

Testimonies of 4 witnesses from God's creation.

- 4 natural phenomena—mortality, sun, wind, river.

Key to understanding Ecclesiastes 1:4-11

- A self-serving life in the vanity of vanities with affections for the things of the world without Jesus Christ.
- Here's your deal...



# Week #2: Vanity of Human Courses Under the Sun

- Charade words:
  - Brevity
  - Restless
  - Uncertain
  - Unfulfilling
- Why these words?



# Week #2: Vanity of Human Courses Under the Sun

- Charade words:
  - Brevity
  - Restless
  - Uncertain
  - Unfulfilling
- Players
  - Mortality
  - Sun
  - Wind
  - River
- Each player will illustrate the vanity of human courses under the sun with three attributes:
  - Fixed circuit
  - Transitory nature
  - Never-ending labor





Charade word: BREVITY

Player: Mortality

Act: "One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever."

(Ecc 1:4)

- Life is a short dash that encapsulates a lifetime of labor.  
What a vanity!

**Psalms 144:4 Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.**



# Ecc 1:4 One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.

- Fixed Circuit:
  - A 1-way circuit between two nodes: birth and death.
  - Humans are on a fixed collision course with death the moment they are born and no one will come out alive.  
*Ecc 8:8a There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war.*
  - A short circuit. Short time to enjoy. The earth (dirt) will outlast human visitors.
- Transitory Nature:
  - New births usher in a new generation that replaces the outgoing.
- Restless labor that does not benefit the worker in the end:
  - A difficult circuit. There is no end to human labor, yet no one can take anything away.



# Ecc 1:4 One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.

Anyone who labors for SELF in the vanity of vanities is subject to the following labor conditions:

1. You will be removed and replaced.
2. You will soon be replaced.
3. You can take nothing with you when you are replaced.

Would you be so excited if you get this job offer?

“Congratulations, you are hired. You should know that the company loves a hard-working employee. You are welcome to enjoy whatever your salary affords. But you should also know that the company can terminate your employment at any time, and when it happens, all your savings and everything you own return to the company.”

Is this worthy of your affection?

The only way you can keep the fruit of your labor is to serve God.





Ecc 1:4 One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh:  
but the earth abideth for ever.

- What is the antidote for the BREVITY of life in the vanity of vanities?
  - Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- How can you keep the fruit of your labor?



Charade word: RESTLESS

Player: Sun

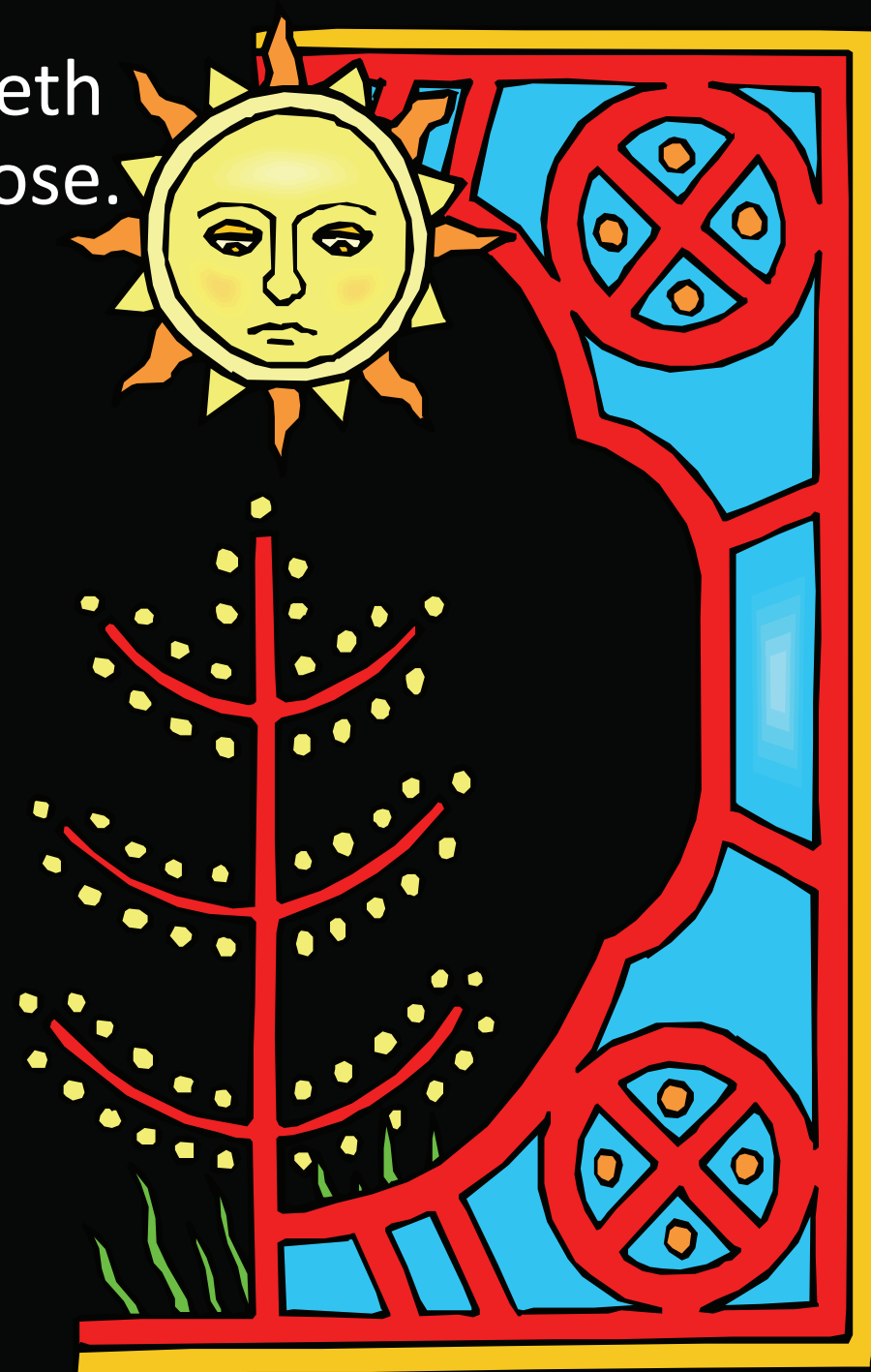
Act: "The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down,  
and hasteth to his place where he arose." (Ecc 1:5)

- The uprising and down-sitting of the sun represents a person's lifecycle.



Ecc 1:5 The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose.

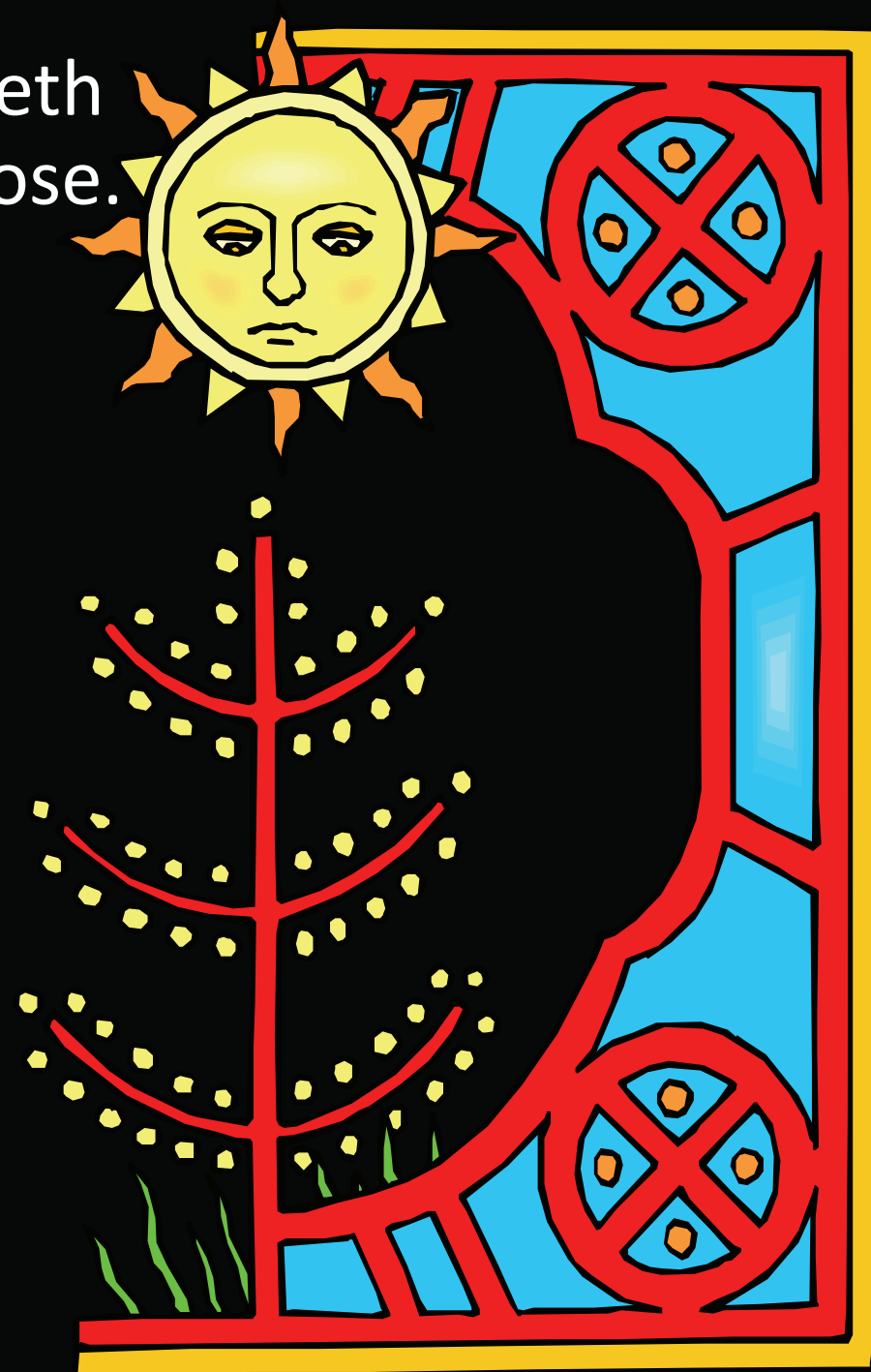
- Fixed Circuit
  - East to West parallels humans birth to death.
- Transitory Nature:
  - A few daylight hours parallels the short human lifespan.
  - No mention of the glorious sun. No one remains in prominent position.
- Restless labor that does not benefit the worker in the end:
  - “Hasteth” to rise again, but finds itself back to square one. No closer to happiness.
  - Gets absolutely no profit from the daylight that it so brilliantly produced yesterday. Take nothing with you.



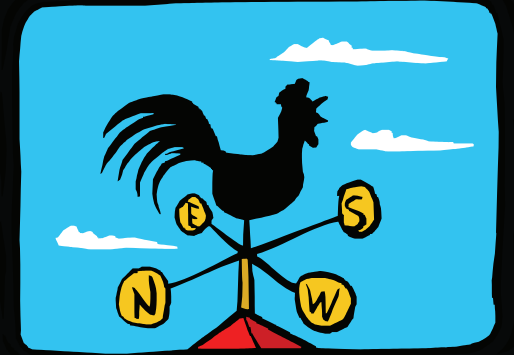


Ecc 1:5 The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose.

- Tired of a RESTLESS life? What is the antidote?
- After the judgment of Noah's flood...  
Genesis 8:9 But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark.
- Matthew 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Accept Jesus as Lord)  
29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.  
(Serve Him)

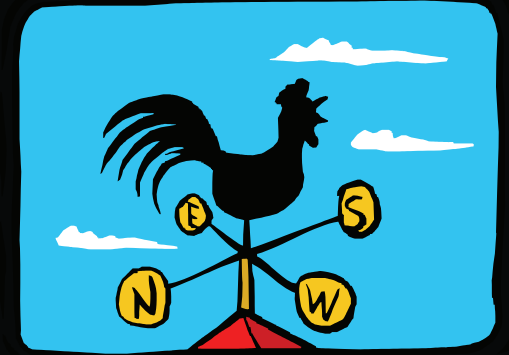


- Charade word: UNCERTAIN
- Player: Wind
- Act: The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits. (Ecc 1:6)



Ecc 1:6 The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.

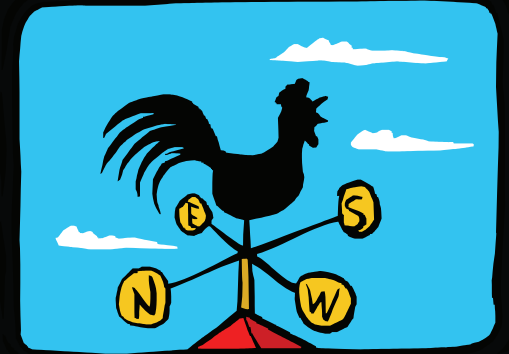
- Fixed Circuit
  - North to South parallels humans birth to death.
  - “Go south” is not a good thing.
- Transitory Nature:
  - Whirls about perpetually and does not remain in one place parallel the brevity of human life on earth.
- Restless labor that does not benefit the worker in the end:
  - Much energy is spent on blowing and whirling in every season. Gets no benefits from its labor from the previous season.
  - The entire course must be repeated. No closer to happiness.





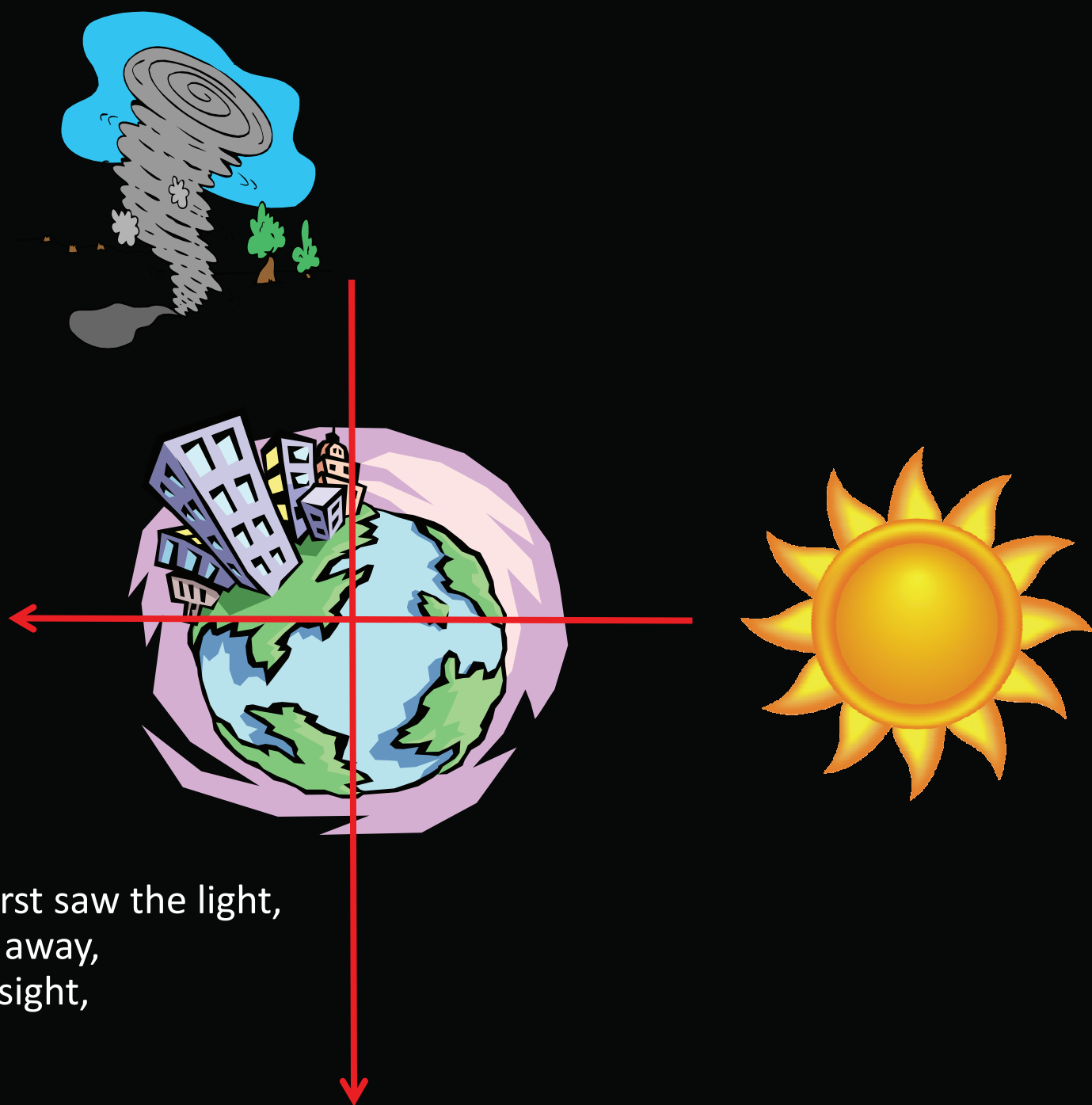
Ecc 1:6 The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.

- Life is UNCERTAIN. What is the antidote?
- The word of God is sure. Combat uncertainty by living His certain word. It boils down to trust and obey.
- Proverbs 22:21 That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?
- 2Peter 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.
- Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.



Hello People,  
Jesus Christ  
is the answer  
to vanity.

At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,  
And the burden of my heart rolled away,  
It was there by faith I received my sight,  
And now I am happy all the day.



- Charade word: UNFULFILLING
- Player: River
- Act: All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again. (Ecc 1:7)
- The rivers represent the worldly feeds of satisfaction and happiness such as rivers of delight, pleasure, prosperity, longevity, serenity, supremacy, splendor, opulence, and so on.
- “All the rivers” means everything is covered—every possible thing humans can discover, develop, make, invent, improve, advance, move, or replace to make them happy.
- The sea represents our human bodies, which can never be satisfied by the things of the world and is always troubled and restless.



Amazon River / Discharge

7.381 million cubic feet  
per second





Ecc 1:7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.

- Fixed Circuit
  - The one-way flow from the headwaters to the sea parallels the downhill flow of human life from birth to death.
- Transitory Nature:
  - The water flows nonstop and is constantly moving as it meanders through land and goes to the river delta and to the sea.
  - The journey from the headwaters to the sea completes in a short amount of time. This parallels the brevity of human life on earth.
- Restless labor that does not benefit the worker in the end:
  - The rivers have been laboring restlessly to fill the oceans for thousands of years, yet the oceans are never full. No closer to happiness.



Ecc 1:7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.

- Tired of unfulfilled life? What is the antidote?
- John 4:13 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: (14) But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.
- Isaiah 55:1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. (2) Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. (3) Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.



# Fill my cup, Lord

Richard Blanchard



Like the woman at the well, I was seeking  
For things that could not satisfy.  
And then I heard my Savior speaking:  
“Draw from My well that never shall run dry.”

Chorus:

Fill my cup, Lord;  
I lift it up Lord;  
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul.  
Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more.  
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

There are millions in this world who are seeking  
For pleasures earthly goods afford.  
But none can match the wondrous treasure  
That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord.

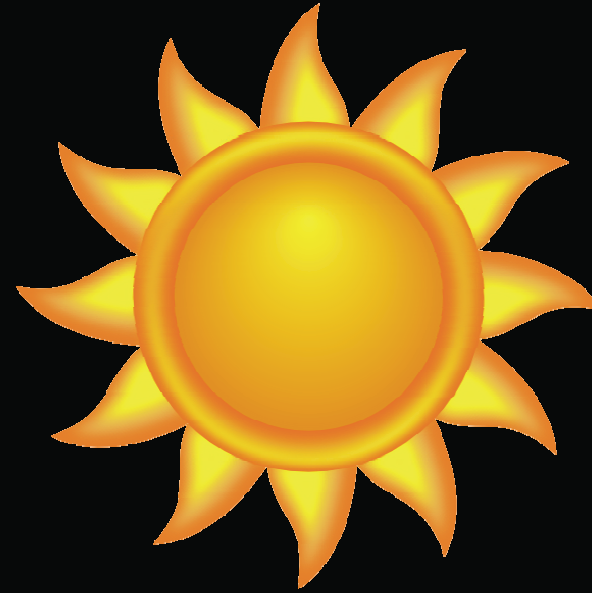
So my brother if the things that this world gives you  
Leave hungers that won't pass away,  
My blessed Lord will come and save you  
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4l2yY2r95g>



# The witnesses have spoken...

- Their testimonies are faithful and are FREE.
- Teach your children!



# For Bible students...



- Water is a type of the Word.
- John 1:1

FATHER



- Sun is a type of the Jesus Christ.
- “He” pronoun in verse 5.
- Psalms 19:1-6

SON



- Wind is a type of the Holy Ghost.
- “He” pronoun in verse 6.
- John 3:5-8

HOLY GHOST

The wisest man has proclaimed...  
The witnesses have spoken...

But

I am still not convinced that this is the  
vanity of vanities and happiness is in  
Jesus Christ only.

I trust the human creature and power  
for happiness.



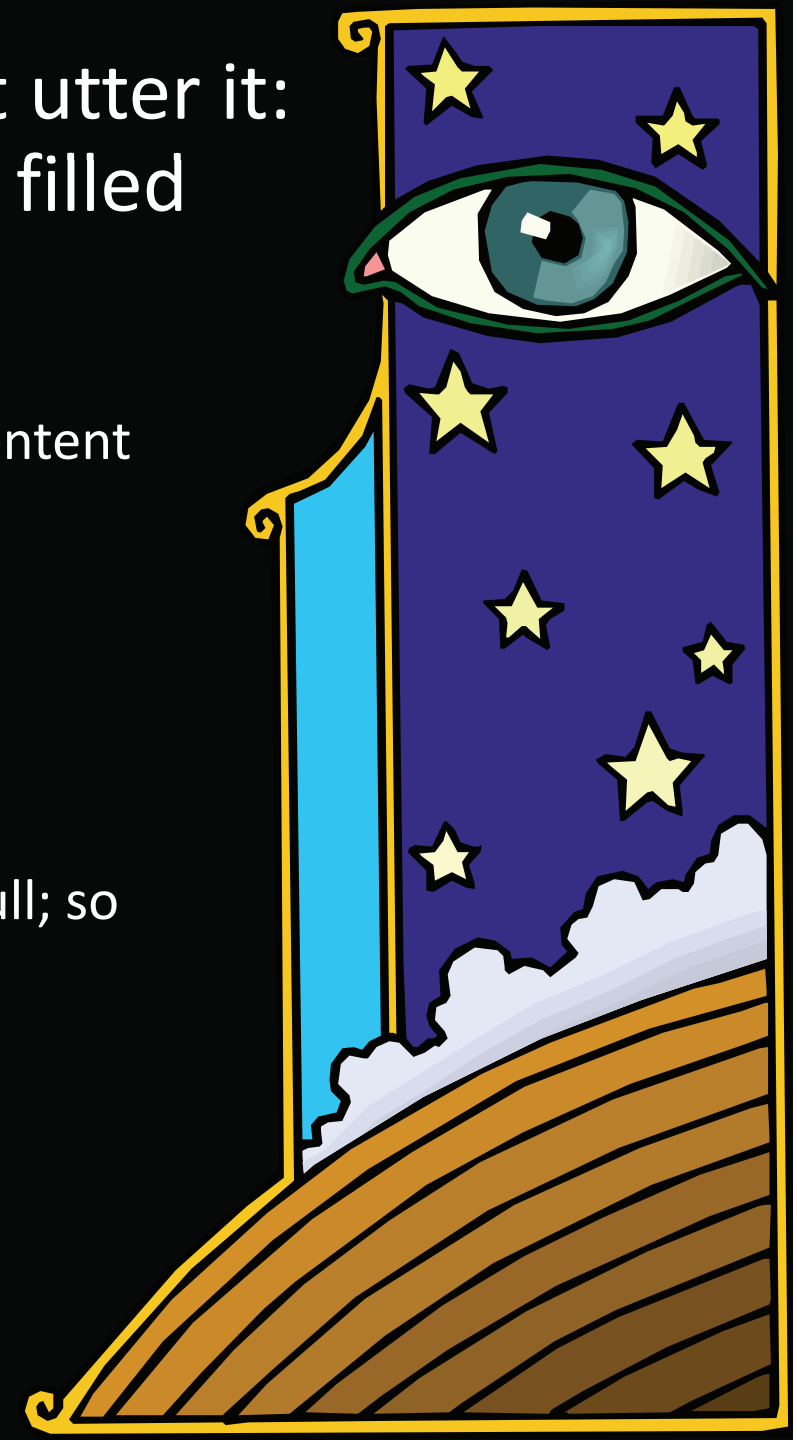
Introducing...

The 3 monsters, courtesy of God, that drive the human creature absolutely restless and unhappy.

Ecc 1:8 All things are full of labour; man cannot utter it: the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

Why it is IMPOSSIBLE for the human creature to be content and happy without Jesus Christ:

1. Afflictions of labor following Adam's sin.
2. Magnification of affliction by monster #1: EYES
  - Proverbs 27:20 Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.
3. Magnification of affliction by monster #2: EARS





Ecc 1:9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.  
(10) Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.  
(11) There is no remembrance of former things; neither shall there be any remembrance of things that are to come with those that shall come after.

Why it is IMPOSSIBLE for the human creature to be content and happy without Jesus Christ:

3. Magnification of affliction by monster #3: UNRELIABLE MEMORY of the human creature that causes it to repeat the same foolish things in every generation.
  - What's old is new again...and again, and again.



# I've Discovered The Way of Gladness

Floyd W. Hawkins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ex5pDqCbbYg>

Mankind is searching ev'ry day,  
In quest of something new;  
But I have found the "Living Way,"  
The path of pleasures true.

## Chorus

I've discovered the way of gladness  
I've discovered the way of joy  
I've discovered relief from sadness  
'Tis a happiness without alloy;  
I've discovered the fount of blessings,  
I've discovered the "Living Word"  
'Twas the greatest of all discoveries,  
When I found Jesus my Lord.

I've found the Pearl of greatest price,  
"Eternal life" so fair;  
'Twas through the Savior's sacrifice,  
I found this jewel rare.

Hello self-serving people,  
Two of your leading dominos  
(World, Self) have fallen!

- You can't rely on the world for happiness, because it doesn't have it.
- You can't rely on SELF, because SELF will drive you restless and unhappy.
- What are you going to do for happiness now?



# You have been illuminated to these truths:

1. Mortality says, "Life is too short to waste it on meaningless and inconsequential things."
2. The sun says, "Life is restless."
3. The wind says, "Life is uncertain."
4. The river says, "Life is unfulfilling."
5. The antidote for the brevity of life on earth is eternal life in Christ. Salvation is the beginning of happiness and a new life in Christ.
6. The antidote for a restless life is to rest in Jesus Christ. According to Mt 11:28-29, this rest consists of two parts: 1) Accept Jesus as Lord; 2) Serve Him.
7. The antidote for uncertainty is to live the certain word of God. It boils down to trust and obey. Pr 22:21, 2Pe 1:19, Mt 4:4
8. The antidote for an unfulfilled life is to live by God's word. (Drink the water from the eternal spring of Jesus Christ. Jo 4:13-14, Isa 55:1-3)
9. It is impossible for the human creature to be content and happy on its own because:
  - The affliction of labor following Adam's sin.
  - The magnification of affliction by the eyes.
  - The magnification of affliction by the ears.
  - The unreliable memory of the creature that causes it to repeat the same foolish things in every generation.