

# The Happiness Code

Week 7 – Vanity of Human Justice

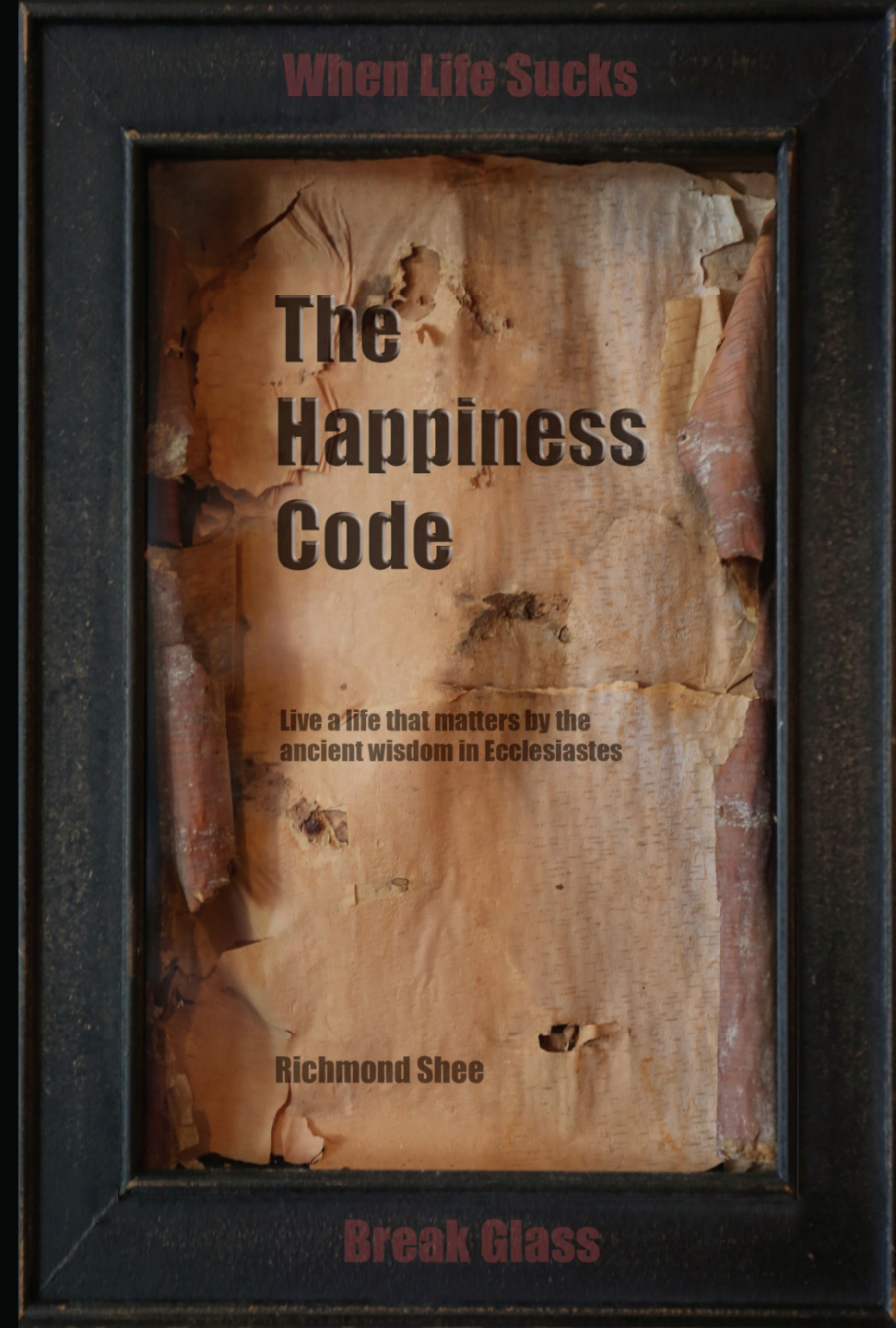
Ecclesiastes 3:16 – 4:3



## Week #7: Level Set

There is a crisis happening across the world.  
A crisis so bad that the dead who are six feet  
under are happier than the living, and the  
happiest people are the unborn.

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## Week #7: Level Set

The world is awash in human injustice and oppression. No one can solve the problem as the fast-moving flood rages on unabated. The powerful, cruel, and heartless oppressors despair humanity with their exploitation, oppression, and degradation, as God looks on passively.

Is there a relationship between justice and happiness? In Plato's masterpiece, "The Republic," book 10, section 612b, "...we have proved that justice in itself is the best thing for the soul itself, and that the soul ought to do justice..."







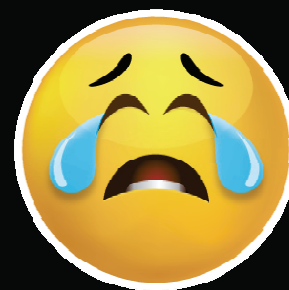
**NO JUSTICE  
NO PEACE**



Happiness?



What Happiness?!?!





## Week #7: Level Set



- Why so many people all over the world are marching and demanding justice?
- Why are some people met with the greatest wrongs in the courts to which they flee for justice?
- If Plato is right, can people whose lives are limited to this world only find happiness in a world of injustice?



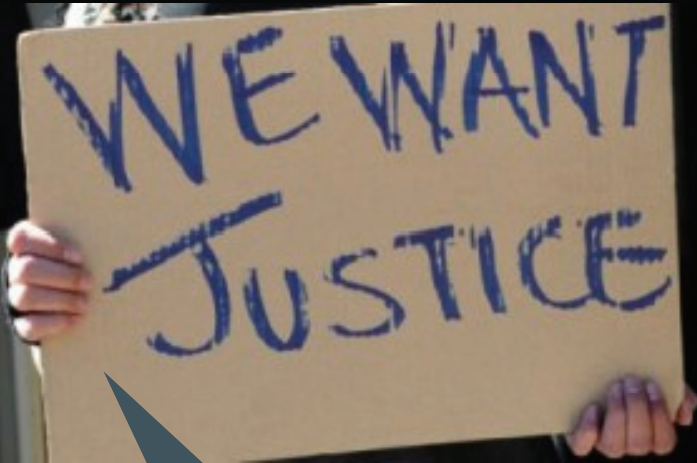
Ecc 3:16 And moreover I saw under the sun the place of judgment, that wickedness was there; and the place of righteousness, that iniquity was there.



- “Moreover”
  - Previously (Ecc 3:1-15), humans are unable to overcome the acts of God.
  - Now, humans also are unable to overcome the injustice acts of their fellows.
- Wickedness in the court of law and sin in the court of morality, adding to the misery of mankind.
  - The place of judgment, where people go for justice has become a safe house for conspiracies and wickedness.
  - The place of righteousness, where morality is expected, has become a safe house for immoral behaviors.
- Such is the nature of justice under the sun, a place self-serving people affectionately call home.



Ecc 3:17 I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work.



We want revenge according to what is right in our own eyes.

- Judgment will come surely, but God delays His judgment.  
**Jeremiah 12:1b Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously?**
- Job 21:7 Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power?**
- Why doesn't God clean up the injustices in the world now?
  1. You are not supposed to like this world.
  2. To draw self-serving people to Him through the chastisement of tyranny and injustice. Neh 9:26-27, Ps 106:41-42, Deu 31:17-18, Jud 2:14-15, Jud 3:8, 12-14, 2Ki 21:10-15.
  3. People refuse His justice anyway.
- Want real justice? Hint: Look up.  
**Psalms 89:14 Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.**



Ecc 3:18 I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts.



- The “estate of the sons of men” – the condition of the people whose affections are set on the world, both the oppressed and the oppressors.
- God allows such horrible oppressions in the world so that He may expose humans to themselves.
- By choosing this world as their portion, they put themselves on the same level as brute beasts.
  - In living, they claw each other like beasts do, and both are powerless in controlling their destiny.
  - In death, they have the same end state, with the exception of their spirit.
- Psalms 49:12 Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish.



Ecc 3:19 For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity.  
(20) All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.



- Death happens to both – “For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts.”
- Both have one breath or spirit, which is the energy of life – “as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath.”
- Both are vanity like vapor – “so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity.”
- Both are of dust and return to dust – “All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.”



Ecc 3:21 Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward,  
and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the  
earth?

- In death, the trichotomy nature of human becomes clear as the components separate.
  - The body returns to dust.
  - The human spirit ascends and returns to God. (Animal spirits go downward into the earth.)



- What about the soul? It is missing from the text.



Ecc 3:22 Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?



- Ecc 2:24 There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.
- Ecc 3:12 I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life. (13) And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.
- Ecc 5:18 Behold that which I have seen: it is good and comely for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour that he taketh under the sun all the days of his life, which God giveth him: for it is his portion.
- Ecc 8:15 Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry: for that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun.



Ecc 4:1 So I returned, and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had no comforter; and on the side of their oppressors there was power; but they had no comforter.



- Oppressions take on various forms and are ubiquitous in the world today.

“Sometimes we ask ourselves how it is possible that human injustice persists unabated, and that the arrogance of the powerful continues to demean the weak, relegating them to the most squalid outskirts of our world. We ask how long human evil will continue to sow violence and hatred in our world, reaping innocent victims.”

(Source: “HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS”,  
Vatican Basilica, Friday, January 1, 2016)



Ecc 4:1 So I returned, and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had no comforter; and on the side of their oppressors there was power; but they had no comforter.



- The oppressed have no comforter.  
Psalms 69:20 Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none.
- The oppressors have no comforter.  
Job 35:9 By reason of the multitude of oppressions they make the oppressed to cry: they cry out by reason of the arm of the mighty.
- Hello world, the solution for oppression is a COMFORTER!  
John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; (17) Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. (18) I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
- Without the Comforter, there will be no real love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance – Gal 5:22-23.

Ecc 4:2 Wherefore I praised the dead which are already dead more than the living which are yet alive. (3) Yea, better is he than both they, which hath not yet been, who hath not seen the evil work that is done under the sun.

**maybe  
i'm  
better off  
dead ?**

- Congratulations! You get the short end of the stick.
  - The dead – ended their misery.
  - The living – suffering from the evil work under the sun.
  - The unborn – never seen the evil work under the sun.
- The worst case is being alive without a Comforter and having to hope for justice that is run by greedy and ungodly people.
- Job 3:11 Why died I not from the womb? why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?
- Job 10:18 Wherefore then hast thou brought me forth out of the womb? Oh that I had given up the ghost, and no eye had seen me! (19) I should have been as though I had not been; I should have been carried from the womb to the grave.



# As Christians...



- We have the Comforter in us, who will comfort and strengthen us through fiery trials and tribulations.  
2Corinthians 1:3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; (4) Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.
- Our Lord Jesus Christ knows about oppression all too well.  
Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.
- Our hearts go out to unbelievers who suffer the terrible tragedy of injustice and oppression.  
Isaiah 19:20 And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them.

Christians, our goal is not to be happy and to tip toe through life so that we can say, “I made it safely to the grave.”

Do you expect to be carried on a flowery bed of ease while others fight the battle and sail through bloody seas?

- The price of righteous fellowship.  
Philippians 3:10 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.
- The price of righteous living.  
2Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
- The price of righteous engagement.  
1Thessalonians 3:3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto. (4) For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.



# You have been illuminated to these truths:

- Happiness requires justice, but the world's justice system is broken and corrupt. Proverbs 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.
- The self-serving life is unprofitable because humans are unable to eradicate injustice and oppression from the world.
- The solution to injustice and oppression is a COMFORTER.
- As Christians, our joy is not in self, in a specific circumstance, or in the things of the world, because joy is a fruit of the Spirit, according to Galatians 5:22. When we make Christ the focus of life, we can be joyful even when we suffer persecution for our faith, and for upholding biblical values and speaking the truth.
- Please submit your questions and feedback to [TheHappinessCode@yahoo.com](mailto:TheHappinessCode@yahoo.com)