

**A Study of the Wisdom Literature
(OT Survey Lesson 295—Eccl. 1:12-2:23)**

Introduction: The wise man in his opening argument presented the vanity of the secularist world view: life “under the sun” is vanity. Someone may respond, “But do not wisdom or pleasure in some way remedy the vanity of earth life?” Solomon shows by his own experience that such will not bring an end to life’s vanity.

Lesson aim: To show that wisdom (education) and pleasure cannot remedy life’s vanity.

Wisdom will not remedy this vanity (1:12-18)

For many education is the ultimate value.

Pleasure will not remedy this vanity (2:1-11)

For others pleasure is the ultimate value.

For the end of all is death (2:12-23)

Regardless of education or wealth all face the same reality of death.

Is there a remedy for this pessimistic world view?