

The Search for Satisfaction – Part 2

Can wealth make me a happy and satisfied person?

Let's look at King Solomon's examples:

A. The Person who Loves Money but who is A_____.

I observed yet another example of something meaningless under the sun. This is the case of a man who is all alone, without a child or a brother, yet who works hard to gain as much wealth as he can. But then he asks himself, "Who am I working for? Why am I giving up so much pleasure now?" It is all so meaningless and depressing. – Ecc 4:7-8 (NLT)

B. The Person who thinks M_____ will make him happy.

He who loves money shall never have enough. The foolishness of thinking that wealth brings happiness! The more you have, the more you spend, right up to the limits of your income. So what is the advantage of wealth—except perhaps to watch it as it runs through your fingers! The man who works hard sleeps well whether he eats little or much, but the rich must worry and suffer insomnia. – Ecc 5:10-12

C. The Person who has Wealth but not H_____.

Yes, but there is a very serious evil which I have seen everywhere— God has given to some men very great wealth and honor so that they can have everything they want, but he doesn't give them the health to enjoy it, and they die and others get it all! This is absurd, a hollow mockery, and a serious fault. – Ecc 6:1-2

D. The Person who has it A_____ – Longevity, Descendants and Wealth.

Even if a man has a hundred sons and as many daughters and lives to be very old, but leaves so little money at his death that his children can't even give him a decent burial—I say that he would be better off born dead. For though his birth would then be futile and end in darkness, without even a name, never seeing the sun or even knowing its existence, yet that is better than to be an old, unhappy man. Though a man lives a thousand years twice over but doesn't find contentment—well, what's the use? – Ecc 6:1-6

1. Wealth requires your undivided A_____.
 - a. It is Laborious to attain
 - b. It will rob you of S_____ with worry.
 - c. It will rob you of pleasure
2. Wealth is never E_____; You always need more.
 - a. It is always tempting to S_____ **more** than you have.
 - b. It is never enough, there are always more things to buy.
 - c. You will have your descendants fighting over what little you leave behind.
3. Wealth is F_____.
 - a. The more you have, the more you spend
 - b. It slips away at the whim of the stock market, calamities, thieves, etc.
 - c. You can't take it with you; you will L_____ it to those who don't deserve it.

Then what is the proper perspective of life, wealth, and possessions?

To enjoy your work and to accept your lot in life—that is indeed a gift from God. The person who does that will not need to look back with sorrow on his past, for God gives him joy. – Ecc 5:19 (TLB)

But godliness with contentment is great gain. – 1 Tim 6:6

Answers: A. Alone; B. Money; C. Health; D. All; 1. Attention; b) sleep; 2. Enough; a) spend; 3. Fleeting; c) Leave