

Ecclesiastes 12:9 *In addition to being a wise man, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge; and he pondered, searched out and arranged many proverbs.*

Solomon was a hard-worker with a _____ for God's people.

Ecclesiastes 12:10 *The Preacher sought to find delightful words and to write words of truth correctly.*

Solomon was a master writer in _____ and _____.

Ecclesiastes 12:11 *The words of wise men are like goads, and masters of these collections are like well-driven nails; they are given by one Shepherd.*

Like goads and well-driven nails that a shepherd uses _____ to direct oxen, the Shepherd uses words of wise men and masters of collections _____ to direct his sheep.

Words of wise men and masters of collections are like goads and well-driven nails, _____, but _____.

Ecclesiastes 12:12 *But beyond this, my son, be warned: the writing of many books is endless, and excessive devotion to books is wearying to the body.*

Ecclesiastes 12:13 *The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.*

Ecclesiastes 12:14 *For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.*

The reason why we must fear God, and keep his commandments is because an _____ is coming.

Because God will bring every act to judgment, everything _____.

DIGGING DEEPER

(for group study and conversation, and for personal reflection)

- Who is narrating Ecclesiastes 12:9–14?
- What was the writer trying to do in v.10?
- Who is the “Shepherd” in v.11? What is the significance of this?
- What do you think the writer meant when he put out the warning against writing too many books and excessive devotion to books? What was the purpose for the warning?
- What was this writer’s reason why we must fear God, and keep his commandments?
- What changes will you make now you have read Ecclesiastes this time?

