## **Ecclesiastes Complete Amplified Outline**

I. The theme stated (1:1-11)

II.

- A. The theme introduced (1:1-2)
- B. The theme illustrated (1:3-11)
  - 1. The generations (1:3-4)
    - 2. The sun (1:5)
    - 3. The wind (1:6)
    - 4. The rivers (1:7)
  - 5. The life of man (1:8-11)
- The theme defended (1:12 6:12)
- A. The emptiness of seeking for knowledge (1:12-18)
- B. The emptiness of seeking for pleasure (2:1-11)
- C. The meaninglessness of lifestyle (2:12-17)
- D. The emptiness of human toil (2:18-23)
- E. The basis of happiness is in God (2:24-26)
- F. The realization that death stalks everyone (3:1-22)
  - 1. The absoluteness of God's program (3:1-15)
  - 2. The inevitability of God's judgment (3:16-22)
- G. The inequalities of life (4:1-16)
  - 1. The oppression of men (4:1-3)
  - 2. The fulility of earthly endeavor (4:4-6)
  - 3. The value of companionship (4:7-12)
  - 4. The futility of high station (4:13-16)
- H. The emptiness of religious formalism (5:1-7)
- I. The emptiness of the life of man (5:8-6:12)
  - 1. The oppression of the poor (5:8-9)
  - 2. The emptiness of wealth (5:10-17)
    - a. It does not satisfy (5:10-12)
    - b. It is temporal (5:13-17)
  - 3. The basis of happiness is in God (5:18-20)
  - 4. The emptiness of man's experience (6:1-9)
  - 5. The futile struggle against fate (6:10-12)
- III. The theme applied (7:1-12:7)
  - A. Advice concerning one's life (7:1-9:12)
    - 1. The statement of better things (7:1-14)
    - 2. The need for moderation (7:15-22)
    - 3. The futile desire for wisdom and women (7:23-29)
    - 4. The necessity of subjection to authority (8:1-9)
    - 5. The inability of man to solve all problems (8:10-17)
    - 6. The invitation to make the best use of this life (9:1-12)
  - B. Advice concerning wisdom (9:13—12:7)
    - 1. The exaltation of wisdom (9:13-18)
    - 2. The conduct of wisdom (10:1-20)
      - a. Wisdom and foolishness contrasted (10:1-3)
      - b. Wisdom and social status (10:4-7)
      - c. Wisdom advocated (10:8-10)
      - d. Wisdom and words (10:11-15)
      - e. Wisdom and the king (10:16-20)
    - 3. The instruction of wisdom (11:1-12:7)
      - a. Exhortation to do good (11:1-6)
      - b. Exhortation to youth (11:7—12:7)
        - (1) Avoid evil (11:7-10)
        - (2) Remember God and death (12:1-7)

- IV. The theme concluded (12:8-14)
  - A. The theme rehearsed (12:8)
  - B. The preacher's activity (12:9-11)
  - C. The preacher's advice (12:12)
  - D. The preacher's conclusion (12:13-14)