

Lesson 1: Chapters 1-2

Drawing from His own *painful personal experience*, Solomon concludes that man cannot find joy in life apart from God's blessing.

Lesson 2: Chapters 3-5

Drawing from his own *perplexing personal observations*, Solomon concludes that man cannot fully grasp the beauty and seeming inequities of God's appointed plan for all things.

Lesson 3: Chapters 6-8:15

Offering *perceptive partial explanations* of God's mysterious providence, Solomon concludes that man must reverently wait for God's perfect, future justice.

Lesson 4: 8:16- 12:14

Offering *persuasive practical encouragements* in the face of God's inscrutable wisdom, Solomon concludes that man can live joyfully and work robustly even with the death and judgment in view.

8:16-9:9 Even with limited understanding, we can still live joyously.

9:10-11:6 Even with limited understanding, we can still work heartily.

11:7-12:7 The imminence of death should influence all that we do while we live

12:8-15 Conclusion

The Foundations of Resilient Joy
8:16 - 9:9

Solomon demonstrates how faith in three aspects of God's Sovereignty form the basis for robust joy.

1. God's Incomprehensible Work of Providence (vs.16-17)

2. God's Imperceptible Hand of Protection (vs. 1-6)
 - A. Affirmation of God's Protection (vs. 1a)

 - B. Seeming Challenges to that Affirmation (vs. 1b-6)

3. God's Interminable Acceptance of Man's Work (vs. 7-9)
 - A. God's Approval Calls for Joyful Feasting (vs. 7)

 - B. God's Approval Calls for Joyful Appearance (vs. 8)

 - C. God's Approval Calls for Joyful Married Life (vs. 9)