#### Pastor Grant Van Leuven PECA Sermon Outline on Eccl. 2:24; 3:12-14 WLC 141, Pt. 2, Jan. 19, 2014

Intro:

WLC Q&A 141: "restitution of goods ... suitable to our condition." Here's self-esteem/actuation.

<u>Main Point of Text:</u> We should focus on our daily work and daily bread from and for God to have daily satisfaction.

<u>Sermon Point:</u> Be satisfied working for God.

*Move 1: If you are satisfied in your redemption, you will be happy to redeem yourself to others.* LC: "restitution of goods unlawfully detained from the right owners thereof":

- Lev. 6:4-5.
- And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, <u>the half of my goods I give to the poor</u>; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, <u>I restore him fourfold</u>. (Luke 19:8)

*Move 2: If you are grateful for your gift of faith, you will faithfully and graciously give to others.* LC: "giving and lending freely, according to our abilities, and the necessities of others":

- Proverb 6:30: Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry;
- Luke 6:30, 35, 38. Can't out-give. Mal. 3:10.
- *I have shewed you all things, how that so <u>labouring</u> ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, <u>It is more blessed to give than to receive</u>. (Acts 20:35)*
- As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. (Gal. 6:10).
- For, ... whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (1 Jn. 3:17)

### Move 3: If you are content with godliness, you will not show contempt to God.

LC: "moderation of our judgments, wills and affections concerning worldly goods":

- <u>READ 1 Tim 6:6-11.</u>
- Heb. 13:5: be content with what you have: you have JESUS!
- But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. (Gal 6:14)

# *Move 4: If you are happy for work and to work, God will give you daily bread and happiness.* LC: "a provident care and study to get, keep, use, and dispose these things which are necessary and convenient for the sustentation of our nature": pray for daily bread (Mt. 6:11):

- ... give me neither poverty nor riches; <u>feed me with food convenient for me</u>: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain. (Prov. 30:8, 9)
- 1 Tim. 5:8: But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. Not working for daily needs is terribly sinful.
- LC: "suitable to our condition". Outer circumstances/inner contentedness. Eccl. 2:24; 3:12-13:
  - Nothing good. Chasing self in everything else is <u>all vanity</u>: every chapter but 10. Empty.
  - But this is good (3 times): Simple living of and for God. Honest work for God: honorable/honored.
  - Let <u>him that stole steal no more</u>: but <u>rather let him labour</u>, working with his hands the thing which is good, <u>that he may have to give to him that needeth</u>. (Eph 4:28). Opposite of stealing: working.
  - Bread/drink the fruit of hard work for God and family. Also a reward in itself. (Prov. 31; Dt. 12:7).
  - God rewards godly work. 2:24: "from hand of God" 3:13: "gift of God is".
  - Reward: contentment. 2:24: "Soul enjoy good"; 3:12: "rejoice in doing good"; 3:13: "see good"
  - Ecc. 5:18-19; 9:7; 5:12. Sleep sweet also for he who trusts and follows God (Prov. 3:24).
  - 2:24: "I saw". Preacher/Solomon observed/experienced. Had worked hard for God's glory. Also had wasted years of life and family life chasing after self in everytying else. Found all else empty.

## Conclusion:

Ps. 128:1-2: Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.

## Be satisfied working for God.