



#1:

“There is one book of Scripture that is expressly designed to turn us into realists, and that is the book of Ecclesiastes. We need to pay more heed to its message than we commonly do.”

J.I. Packer
Knowing God

#2:

“If Proverbs focuses on the norms and rules, “Ecclesiastes focuses on the exceptions.” As students, many of us hate learning about exceptions. It takes so much effort just to learn the rules. When we finally do master the rules, the teacher then says, “It does not always work according to the rule you’ve just learned...A student who cannot overcome her impatience with the exceptions and who remains hasty to avoid anything but the rule will struggle...So it is in life.”

Zack Eswine
Recovering Eden: The Gospel According to Ecclesiastes

#3:

“Demons love to depict God as miserly...In the Serpent’s mouth, God is not a father, but a forbiddler, a cosmic killjoy who creates pleasures and then denies their indulgence. The mark of the Serpent’s lying theology is this denial and asceticism... Christians need to be reminded of the goodness of creation and God’s approval of it for our joy. Otherwise, we believe the Devil’s lies and succumb to low-grade guilt every time we encounter the things of earth...To feel guilty for something that God does not regard as a sin is itself a sin...to erect a false standard of holiness is legalism.”

Joe Rigney
The Things of Earth: Treasuring God by Enjoying His Gifts