



Ecclesiastes

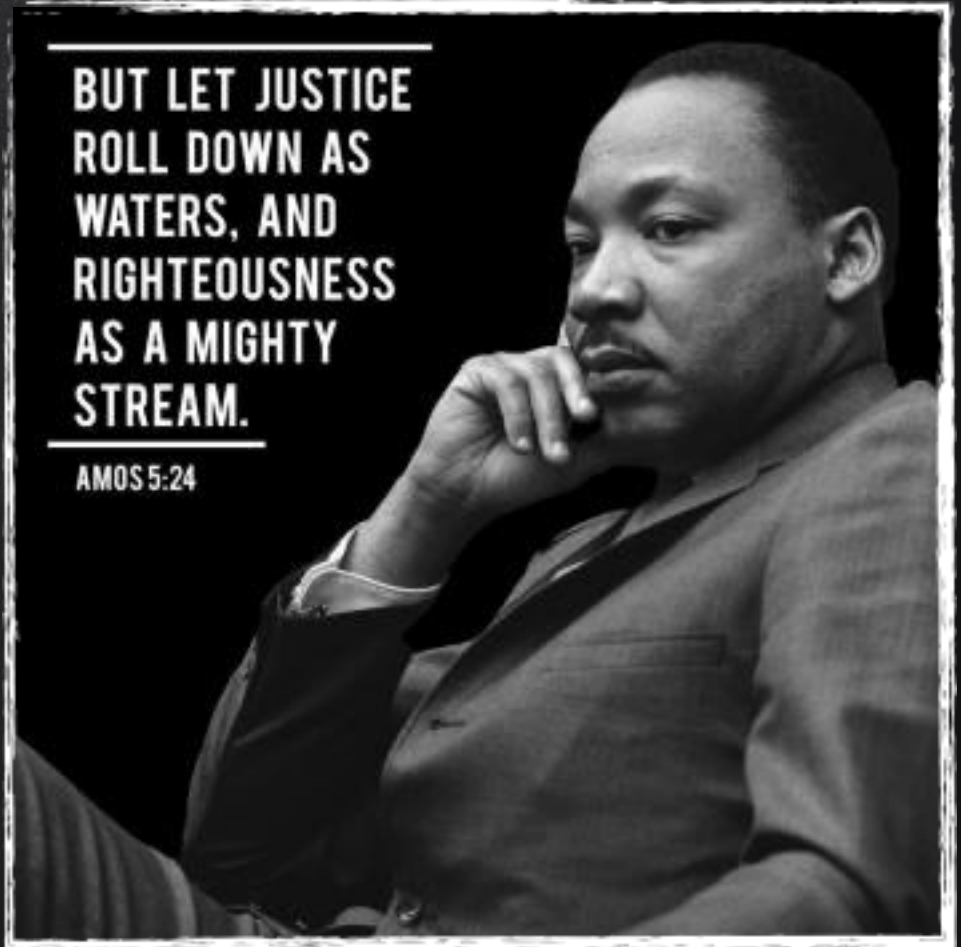
CHASING WISDOM

Looking for Justice, Finding Hope

*Ecclesiastes 2:13-17,
4:1-3, & 12:8-13*

BUT LET JUSTICE
ROLL DOWN AS
WATERS, AND
RIGHTEOUSNESS
AS A MIGHTY
STREAM.

AMOS 5:24



Ecclesiastes 2:13-15

13 Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. 14 The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. 15 Then I said in my heart, "What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?" And I said in my heart that this also is smoke (*hevel*).

Ecclesiastes 2:16-17

16 For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! 17 So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is smoke (*hevel*) and a striving after wind.

Ecclesiastes 4:1-3

1 Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And look, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. 2 And I thought the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive. 3 But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 12:8

8 “Smoke (*hevel*), smoke (*hevel*),” says the Teacher, “Everything is utterly smoke (*hevel*).”

Ecclesiastes 12:9-11

9 Besides being wise, the Teacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs with great care. 10 The Teacher sought to find words of delight, and uprightly he wrote words of truth. 11 The words of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings; they are given by one Shepherd.

The author's good news is the
promise of God's judgement.

God's justice is not about the condemnation of people, but the condemnation of evil. His judgment is actually a rescue operation to restore life, beauty, and peace to the world.

Jesus invites us to KNOW HOPE.

To know hope, you have to know Jesus
because he is the one who renews what
is broken.

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has
anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at
liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the
year of the Lord’s favor.” (Luke 4:18-19)*

It is God's design for us to know the hope of Jesus through this community that is filled by Jesus, depends on Jesus, and acts like Jesus out in the world.

Jesus invites us to HAVE HOPE.

To have hope means to see and
engage with the world through faith.

Jesus invites us to BE HOPE.