

July 18, 2018

**“Companions in a Cursed World”**

*-Ecclesiastes 4:1-16-*

**Introduction:**

- When you have some free time to do what you want, what do you do with it?
  
- Do you find it easy or hard to be around other people and interact with them?
  
- When you have had friendships or relationships end, what usually was the cause?
  
- Why do you think that it is generally hard for people to get along and love each other?
  
- Would everyone be better off if they just kept to themselves and lived their own lives?
  
- Is it possible for people to care and love each other for a lifetime? Why? Why not? How?

Notes:

**God designed life to be lived and enjoyed with company!**

*In Ecclesiastes 4:1-16, we are confronted with four consequences of living life for ourselves.*

**Oppression Rules without Comfort (vv. 1-3):**

Notes:

**Jealousy Drives without Contentment (vv. 4-8):**

Notes:

**Loneliness Lingers without Compassion (vv. 9-12):**

Notes:

**Foolishness Follows without Counsel (vv. 13-16):**

Notes:

**Conclusion:**

*Is Christ your Comforter and Counselor? Do you know His Compassion and Contentment?*

*"The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person."  
-- Ecclesiastes 12:13 --*