

Song of Solomon & Ecclesiastes (Route 66)

All right, let's turn in our Bibles... to the SONG OF SOLOMON... We are **BACK** on 'Route 66' this morning... we took a break LAST WEEK to hear a RE-CAP of our recent YOUTH RETREAT...

What a GREAT TIME! – If you weren't with us, I encourage you to go BACK and check-out that service online... We got to hear from SEVERAL students... It was great!

But, this morning... our GOAL is to cover TWO Books of the Bible... **'Song of Solomon,'** and the **'Book of Ecclesiastes'**... Both of them written BY King Solomon...

Solomon, you'll remember, was known for SEVERAL things... We talked about FOUR of them when we looked at his life from the first ELEVEN CHAPTERS of 1st Kings...

We talked about the fact that Solomon BUILT THE TEMPLE... which was considered *"one of the most magnificent structures of the ancient world..."*

We talked about the fact that Solomon was known for WISDOM... 1st Kings 4 says: **"He was wiser than all men..."** and **"men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth... came to hear [his] wisdom..."**

We're also told that **"he spoke three thousand proverbs..."** – And so—**after** LOOKING at his LIFE—we considered the Book of Proverbs, and just WHAT A BOOK that is! – (Again, I encourage you to GO BACK and check-out that study)...

But a couple of OTHER things Solomon was known for his relationship with WOMEN, and his eventual DOWNFALL—his FOLLY... (which—ironically enough—STEMMED from his relationships with women)...

1st Kings 11:3 really SUMS-UP these two things... It says Solomon: **"had seven hundred wives..."** – So, maybe he WASN'T the WISEST MAN who ever lived... (I'm just kidding!)...

"He had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines... AND..." It was **"his wives [who] turned away his heart."** – **"For... when Solomon was old... his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God..."**

Now, in ADDITION to his Proverbs, 1st Kings 4 ALSO tells us that Solomon wrote over ONE THOUSAND SONGS...

And—this morning—we're going to LOOK at what is—APPARENTLY—the BEST of them, the **"Song OF Songs."** – One author says this is: *"considered... a masterpiece of art and theology..."*

We'll LOOK at this "Song of Solomon"... Sort of as a REPRESENTATION of Solomon's RELATIONSHIP with WOMEN...

Then, we'll look at Ecclesiastes, which MANY BELIEVE was written toward the END of Solomon's life, AFTER his heart had TURNED from following the Lord, and he developed a very CYNICAL & JADED perspective on life...

Now, BOTH of these Books belong to a section of scripture known as '*The Writings*,' or the '*Ketuvim*' ... separate from the TORAH, or the PROPHETS... And, THESE writings are TYPICALLY broken into FOUR DIFFERENT CATEGORIES...

- There are the **POETICAL BOOKS**—which include Psalms, Proverbs, & Job...
- The '**SCROLLS**,' or the 'Megillot,'—including Song of Solomon, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Esther...
- **PROPHECY**—the Book of Daniel...
- And then, the **HISTORY BOOKS** of Ezra, Nehemiah, and 1st and 2nd Chronicles...

OBVIOUSLY—based on TIME LIMITATIONS—this is gonna be more of a study **ABOUT** THESE BOOKS, rather than an EXEGESIS of their ACTUAL CONTENT...

So, FASTEN YOUR SEAT-BELTS, and let's DIVE RIGHT IN... with the 'Song of Solomon,' Chapter ONE, VERSE one says: "**The song of songs, which is Solomon's.**" – This is a VERY UNIQUE BOOK of the BIBLE...

Translators don't even agree on what to CALL it... Some call it "*Song of Solomon*," others call it "*Song of Songs*"... SOME use the LATIN WORD for songs—"Canticles."

Dennis Kinlaw said: "*If a manuscript of this... book were found—detached from Biblical context and tradition—it [would most likely]... be viewed as secular. [This] book has no obvious religious content.*"

Dr. Graham Scroggie observes: "*It is never referred to in the other Old Testament books, nor the New Testament, nor in Philo, nor in Josephus; and the NAME of God—YAHWEH—does not appear anywhere in it.*"

AND YET... According to Jon Courson, "*Song of Solomon*" was the favorite book of D.L. Moody, Charles Spurgeon... In fact, Spurgeon preached 59 SERMONS from this book... John Gill preached 122 sermons from this Book!

A French Mystic by the name of Bernard de Clairvaux preached 88 teachings from the FIRST CHAPTER ALONE! – That's a LOT...

A Rabbi by the name of Akiva once said of 'Song of Solomon:' "*Eternity in its entirety is not as worthy as the day on which Song of Songs was given to Israel... All the Writings are holy, but Song of Songs is the Holy of Holies.*"

This is ALSO considered to be one of the most—if not **THE** most—CONTROVERSIAL BOOKS OF THE BIBLE... And that's because MANY see—in the text—very EROTIC DESCRIPTIONS of the INTIMACY between a HUSBAND and WIFE...

In *'The Art of Biblical Poetry,'* Robert Alter writes: *"Unlike other books in the... Bible, [the Song of Solomon] is erotic poetry... [Here] lovers express passionate desire, exchange compliments, and invite one another to enjoy."* – *"It narrates an intense, poetic love story between a woman and her lover through a series of sensual dialogues, dreams, metaphors, and warnings to the 'daughters of Jerusalem' not to awaken love before its time."*

Did you know that orthodox Jews were not allowed to read this book until they were 30 years old? – Origen, a very EARLY CHURCH WRITER, said:

"I counsel everyone who is not yet rid of vexations of the flesh... and has not ceased to feel the passions of his bodily nature, to refrain from reading [Song of Solomon] and the things that will be said about it."

But that isn't the ONLY INTERPRETATION of this Book... SOME see 'Song of Solomon' PURELY as an **ALLEGORY** of the relationship GOD desires to have with His Covenant People—either the **JEWS** of the Old Testament, or the **CHURCH** of the New...

Douglas Estes said: *"Early Jewish rabbis taught that [this] book pictures God's love for Israel. Early Christian writers... replaced Israel with the Church."*

And, it's TRUE that—THROUGHOUT the Old Testament—God refers to ISRAEL as His "wife," and—in the New Testament—the CHURCH is called the 'Bride of Christ.'

In fact, speaking about MARRIAGE, Paul the Apostle says—straight-up—in Ephesians Chapter 5: **"This is a great mystery"**—meaning a PREVIOUSLY HIDDEN TRUTH—"but," he says... **OF MARRIAGE... "I speak concerning Christ and the church."**

The REALTIONSHIP between a HUSBAND and a WIFE... is INTENDED TO REFLECT the RELATIONSHIP JESUS desires to have with His church...

[By the way, this is WHY things like ADULTERY and DIVORCE... are so DAMAGING... They MESS-UP the PICTURE that God wants to PORTRAY of His relationship with His people]...

But, WHICH IS IT? – Is the Song of Solomon **ONLY**... about a REAL, LITERAL RELATIONSHIP between a HUSBAND and WIFE? – Or is it MORE of a METAPHOR... of the relationship that God DESIRES TO HAVE with his people... The answer is "YES."

As G. Campbell Morgan said: *"There are those who treat this Book [only] as a song of human love... There are those who consider its... value [as only] that of mystical suggestiveness. Personally, I believe that both values are here."*

Dr. Graham Scroggie called it: *"An allegory emerging from history..."* – He said: *"[Though] It is not possible to [discern exactly] what... the author [had in mind]... that need not interfere with our discerning a value—or values—from this book."*

Let me read to you an EXCERPT from David Guzik’s commentary on this... He writes: *“The best way to see this book is as a literal description of the romantic... love between a man and a woman... Yet, because God deliberately uses marriage... as an illustration of the relationship He has with His people, we find that [it] illustrates the love, intensity, and beauty of the relationship that should exist between God and the believer. This is clearly a secondary meaning, yet nevertheless valid and important.”— “A purely allegorical approach to Song of Solomon [would be] wrong; yet it cannot be denied that since it presents the height and glory and passion of love in marriage, it powerfully illustrates the relationship that exists between God and His people.”*

Again, G. Campbell Morgan said: *“The Song of Solomon should be treated first as a simple and... song of human affection. [But] When... understood thusly, [then] reverently the thought may be lifted into the higher value of setting forth the joys of communion between the spirit of man and the Spirit of God, and ultimately between the Church and Christ.”*

But **IF** THAT IS TRUE... then we **HAVE** to consider just HOW INTIMATE the SEXUAL UNION is between a MAN and a WOMAN and understand... THAT is how INTIMATE Jesus Christ desires to know EACH of us...

Now, one of the things that is CONFUSING about the ‘Song of Solomon’ is the STRUCTURE... It has no real ‘PLOT’ to speak of... One author says it’s: *“A collection of ‘snapshots’... with [all] the pictures not necessarily in order.”*

It uses a lot of SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE—kind of like the Book of Revelation... AND, it ISN’T ALWAYS CLEAR who is SPEAKING...

Jon Courson writes: *“Many modern translations attempt to add headings of... who is speaking, but they often end up creating more confusion than clarity.”*

Again—according to Graham Scroggie—Solomon is the: *“the universal voice of antiquity...”* – Meaning: It is GENERALLY BELIEVED that he is the one who WROTE it...

He is mentioned 6 TIMES in the text—beginning with the OPENING PHRASE... AND, there are 3 REFERENCES to an UN-NAMED KING (also believed to be Solomon)...

He’s OFTEN called **“the Beloved.”** – That PHRASE, or DESCRIPTION, appears FORTY-FIVE TIMES in these EIGHT SHORT CHAPTERS...

Then, there is the SHULAMITE—the WOMAN, the YOUNG MAIDEN... David Carr says: *“The girl is usually identified as [being] from Shunem, a small agricultural village in Lower Galilee... Some commentators suggest that she is one of Solomon’s many wives, perhaps even “Pharaoh’s daughter,” mentioned in 1st Kings 3 and 7.”*

Then, there is a ‘CHORUS’—the **“Daughters of Jerusalem.”** – They are mentioned FOURTEEN TIMES in the book... David Guzik acknowledges: *“...there are also a few ‘minor’ characters, including the brothers of the Shulamite and some relatives to the wedding party.”*

Once more, Dr. Graham Scroggie offers a slightly different perspective on this... He says: *“We take the view that in the song of Solomon there are not two, but three, chief characters, Solomon, the Shulamite, and a Shepherd Lover. The story briefly is this: a beautiful country girl from Shulam (i.e. Shunem) is surprised by the king on one of his journeys to the north (6:11), is brought to Jerusalem and placed in the Royal Palace (1:4,5), where... the ladies of the harem (the ‘daughters of Jerusalem’) sing the praises of Solomon. The king himself makes great efforts to win the affection of the Shulamite (1:9); but she remains faithful to her Shepherd Lover (1:7), who at last appears, and is allowed by the magnanimous monarch to return to his mountain... with his bride (8:5).”*

He says: *“If we regard the king in the poem as the world, the shepherd lover as Christ, and the Shulamite as the individual **soul**, we shall not fail to be helped. In the face of all the world’s allurements, we are expected by our Lord—the ‘Lover of our souls’—to be faithful to Him, and one day He will consummate His love for us in glory.”*

George Saintsbury—who was an English critic, and literary historian—described the conclusion of “Song of Solomon” as *“perfect English prose.”*

In fact, Graham Scroggie has what—I believe—is **THE** BEST... most **CONCISE**, description of ‘The Song of Solomon’... He calls it: *“A Biblical Marriage Poem.”* – I think that is a **PERFECT WAY** to **CATEGORIZE** this book... So, that’s the **SONG OF SOLOMON**...

Now, **ECCLESIASTES**... **THIS** book has been called *“one of the most unusual and... difficult to understand... [with] a spirit of hopelessness & despair; [and] no peace [nor] praise.”* – One author called this book: *“The sphinx of Hebrew literature, with its unsolved riddles about history and life.”*

This book, too, is **BELIEVED** to have been written by Solomon... Chapter 1 **OPENS** with: **“The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.”**

By the way, the title ‘Ecclesiastes’ comes from the **GREEK** word *ekklesia* (which means “the assembly”)... And so, **THE TITLE**—Ecclesiastes—means *“One who addresses an assembly.”* – Which is where the term ‘**PREACHER**’ comes from in the opening verse...

Now, the Book **NEVER** mentions Solomon’s name... **BUT**, one author writes: *“He **does** say that he is the son of David, who is the king in Jerusalem, and that he is fantastically rich and wise... has many servants, pleasures, and building projects... In other words, he is claiming to be Solomon without using his name.”*

1st Kings Chapter 11 tells us: **“When Solomon was old... his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God... For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and... Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites... Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not fully follow the LORD, as did his father David.”**

We read: “Solomon built a high place for Chemosh... and for Molech... And he did likewise for all his foreign wives... So the LORD [was] angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the LORD God of Israel, who... commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the LORD had commanded.”

And **MANY PEOPLE BELIEVE**... that Ecclesiastes was WRITTEN—**BY SOLOMON**—during **this** period of his life... when he had TURNED from following the Lord... only to discover how VAIN and PURPOSELESS and MEANINGLESS of a life this was...

One article says: “*The rather pessimistic tone that pervades this book would be in keeping with Solomon’s spiritual state at that time.*”

Chapter 1, Verse 2, opens the Book with this declaration: “**Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher; “Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.**”

And, this declaration sort of serves as A BOOK-END... on the FRONT and the BACK of the book... because we see it AGAIN in Chapter 12, Verse 8: “**Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher, “All is vanity.**”

This word—VANITY—it’s kind of UNFORTUNATE TRANSLATION... the Hebrew word ‘hevel’ means “vapor” or “smoke.” –

And, the writer uses this word THIRTY-EIGHT TIMES to describe how TEMPORARY and FLEETING his life is... It’s “*like a wisp of smoke,*” one author writes. “*Smoke can appear solid, but when you try to grab it... nothing is there.*”

My old Pastor used to refer to it as “soap bubbles.” – We all know what it’s like to try and CAPTURE a SOAP BUBBLE... And just about the SECOND YOU THINK YOU’VE GOT ONE—‘POP!’—it’s gone! – That’s what ‘the Preacher’ is saying in this book...

I was half-tempted to ask the Worship Team to work-up a cover version of the Rolling Stones “*(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction.*” – We all know the lyrics:

“*I can’t get no satisfaction... ‘Cause I try, and I try, and I try, and I try!*” – And, he just becomes emphatic: “*I can’t get no! I CAN’T GET NO!*” – This is LITERALLY what Ecclesiastes is lamenting...

If this **IS** Solomon writing this Book (which, I believe it is)... Let’s remember: He was the RICHEST... the WISEST... MOST INFLUENTIAL person in the world... who had MORE WOMEN THAN ANYBODY ELSE!

And yet, here he is saying: “*I can’t get no satisfaction... Though I try, and I try, and I try, and I try!*” – It’s all SOAP BUBBLES... “**Vanity of vanities,**” he says... “It’s MEANINGLESS!”

Look at Verse 3 of Chapter 1... He asks: **“What profit has a man from all his labor in which he toils under the sun? One generation passes away, and another generation comes; [and yet] the earth abides forever. The sun also rises, and the sun goes down...”**

In Verse 7, he says: **“All the rivers run into the sea, [but] the sea is not full; To the place from which the rivers come, there they return again.”**

Verse 8: **“All things are full of labor; Man cannot express it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, Nor the ear filled with hearing. That which has been is what will be,”** Verse 9... **“That which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.”**

In fact, CHAPTER THREE... there is a very well-known PASSAGE... And (ironically enough), another POP-CULTURE reference, serving as the INSPIRATION for the Byrd’s song, *“Turn, Turn, Turn.”* – But we often MISS THE MEANING of this passage...

We’ll hear this quoted very SENTIMENTALLY... **“To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted; A time to kill, And a time to heal; A time to break down, And a time to build up; A time to weep, And a time to laugh...”**

David Guzik writes: *“The poetry of this list... IS beautiful. [But] it’s [intended to] cast a dark shadow because it reminds us... [of the] monotony of life.”*

So, IMAGINE I read it THIS way: **“A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted; A time to kill, And a time to heal; A time to break down, And a time to build up; A time to weep, And a time to laugh; A time to mourn, And a time to dance...”** – THAT is what Solomon is getting at!

G. Campbell Morgan says: *“[Solomon’s] ceaseless reiteration of the words, ‘A time... a time... a time,’ are intended to indicate... the monotony of all things, [not] their variety.”* – Derek Kidner adds: *“The repetition of ‘a time..., and a time...’ [is meant] to be oppressive.”*

SO... back in Verse 13 of Chapter 1, the ‘Preacher’ says: **“I set my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all that is done under heaven; this burdensome task God has given to the sons of man...”** – Verse 14: **“I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and indeed, all is vanity and grasping for the wind.”**

In Verse 16, he says: **“I communed with my heart, saying, “Look, I have attained greatness, and have gained more wisdom than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My heart has understood great wisdom and knowledge... I set my heart to know wisdom and...madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind.”**

In Chapter 2, he: **“...said in [his] heart, “Come now, I will test you with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure”; but surely, this also was vanity. I said of laughter—“Madness!”; and of mirth, “What does it accomplish?” I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with**

wine, while guiding my heart with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives.”

Do you see what he’s saying? – He’s saying, *“I tried it all!”* – He says: **“I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards. I made myself gardens and orchards, and I planted all kinds of fruit trees... I made myself water pools from which to water the... trees of the grove. I acquired male and female servants... I had greater possessions of herds and flocks than all who were in Jerusalem before me.”**

Verse 8: **“I gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and of the provinces. I acquired male and female singers, the delights of the sons of men, and musical instruments of all kinds. I became great,”** Verse 9, **“and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem.”** – Verse 10...

“Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor.” – But, **“Then,”** Verse 11...

“I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun.”

How TRAGIC is this! – He’s saying: *“I can’t get no satisfaction! Though I try, and I try, and I try, and I try!”*

And, DON’T MISUNDERSTAND... I **LOVE** the Book of Ecclesiastes... Like the Book of Judges, this is ONE of the VERY FIRST BOOKS of the BIBLE I ever taught...

There is a LOT of practical wisdom in this Book... Ecclesiastes reminds me of somebody like... a Jordan Peterson... or, an Elon Musk character... maybe Joe Rogan...

Somebody who appears SUPER INTELLIGENT... and WEALTHY... and INFLUENTIAL... Guys who have—in SOME ways (or, at least, on SOME OCCASIONS)—expressed SOME LEVEL of UNDERSTANDING of SPIRITUAL THINGS...

There’s things that we can LEARN from people like that... But, certainly NOT the “secret of life,” right?

That’s ALMOST the PLACE FROM where SOLOMON IS WRITING THIS BOOK... He’s got ALL this wealth, ALL this wisdom, ALL these servants, ALL this pleasure, this INCREDIBLE KINGDOM... But—in the words of Bono—*“He still hasn’t found what he’s looking for.”*

Now, in SOME ways, I think Ecclesiastes... can ONLY BE APPRECIATED by reading the WHOLE THING... Because—once again—he’ll MAKE THIS DECLARATION at the beginning of the book about the VANITY of life...

And—in the ENSUING CHAPTERS—we see him SET HIS HEART on PURSUING THINGS LIKE... PLEASURE... FRIENDSHIP... HARD WORK... POPULARITY... HONOR...

And, it's COMPOSITION—or its STRUCTURE—is SIMILAR to how PROVERBS is structured... There are certainly some "PASSAGES"... But, a lot of Ecclesiastes offers-up NEAT, SHORT, LITTLE BURSTS for REFLECTION...

But NONE OF THESE THINGS SATISFY... And, by the END of the Book, the 'Preacher' is saying things like: **"Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, 'I have no pleasure in them...'"**

In fact, the Book CONCLUDES with this statement: **"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter..."** – *'This is what it's ALL ABOUT,'* he's saying...

"Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil."

This CONCLUDING CHAPTER is the ONLY PLACE in Ecclesiastes that: Either **GOD as a CREATOR**, or the **COMMANDS of GOD** are specifically mentioned...

And—somebody once pointed-out that—if **"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge..."** – As PROVERBS declares... Then it MAKES SENSE that to **"Fear God"** is the CONCLUSION of the matter, as well...

Look... Don't take it from ME... Some 53-year-old, BALD, slightly overweight, NERD of a pastor guy... Take it from the WISEST... WEALTHIEST... MOST INFLUENTIAL... man with the MOST WOMEN... Solomon would make today's biggest Tik-Tok Influencer **PALE** by comparison...

He's saying **"THIS** is what it's all about"... And HE OUGHT TO KNOW—because he tried EVERYTHING! – He withheld himself from NOTHING... But, here's the CONCLUSION of the matter: **"Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's ALL."**

People ask ALL THE TIME: *"Does this mean that Solomon came BACK to the Lord before His life was over?"* – I don't know...

Some say that he DID... OTHERS say that he DIDN'T... Here's what I **DO** know... The Bible is SILENT about it... But I think that's INTENTIONAL...

Because—you know as well as I do—if we found out that we could go out and do WHATEVER WE WANTED, and live HOWEVER WE PLEASED... what would we DO?

All the HONEST people in the room KNOW that we wouldn't necessarily LIVE A LIFE of committed faithfulness to the Lord... We would probably LIVE FOR PLEASURE, and give ourselves to EVERYTHING... And just sort of hope to play a "Solomon Card" at the end...

So, the BIBLE is **SILENT** on this issue... And I will be, too... But, ECCLESIASTES is a GREAT BOOK... Just KNOW WHAT YOU'RE READING WHEN YOU READ IT...

These are the words—and the perspective—of a guy who has just found out the HARD WAY... that—“under the sun”—there is very little PURPOSE or PLEASURE to be found... outside of FEARING THE LORD and KEEPING HIS COMMANDMENTS...

Here's one author's FITTING DESCRIPTION of this book: *“Ecclesiastes says that if your whole focus is about working and achieving in order to bring meaning to your life, you need to stop and consider the march of time. For all the human effort that takes place in the world, nothing really changes. We develop technology and nations rise and fall, but go climb a mountain and see if it cares. That thing was there long before any of us, and it will remain there after we're gone. 100 years from now, no one will remember you or me or anything that we did, but that mountain will still be there, and the ocean will still be breaking on the beach, and the sun will still rise and set. Time will eventually erase you, me, and all we care about. Death is the great equalizer. It renders meaningless most of our daily activities. No matter who [we] are, or what [we've] done, good or bad, everyone eventually dies. So, what's the way forward in the midst of all this vanity? Paradoxically, the teacher learns that the key to truly enjoying life is accepting... that everything in your life is totally [beyond] your control. Nothing is guaranteed, and, strangely, that's the beauty of it. **When [we] adopt a posture of complete trust in God, it frees-us-up to enjoy life as we actually experience it... and not as [we] think it ought to be**”*

So, there we have... the **SONG OF SOLOMON** and the **BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES**... Next up on Route 66, I believe we're going to look at the Book of Jonah...

He is considered to be one of the very FIRST prophets to prophesy during the period of the Kings... So, go ahead and read ahead...

We'll pick it up on Jonah, when Route 66 continues!

After that, we're into VBS territory... We'll have a VBS “Warm Up” Service, and then a VBS “Re-Cap” service... Then, I'll be on Vacation... And then, the Summer of 2025 will be OVER (hard to believe, isn't it?)...

But make sure you READ the Books of SONG OF SOLOMON and ECCLESIASTES some time, they are VERY INTERESTING... And then, come back NEXT WEEK... I think you'll be blessed as Rick Daugherty brings the WORD...