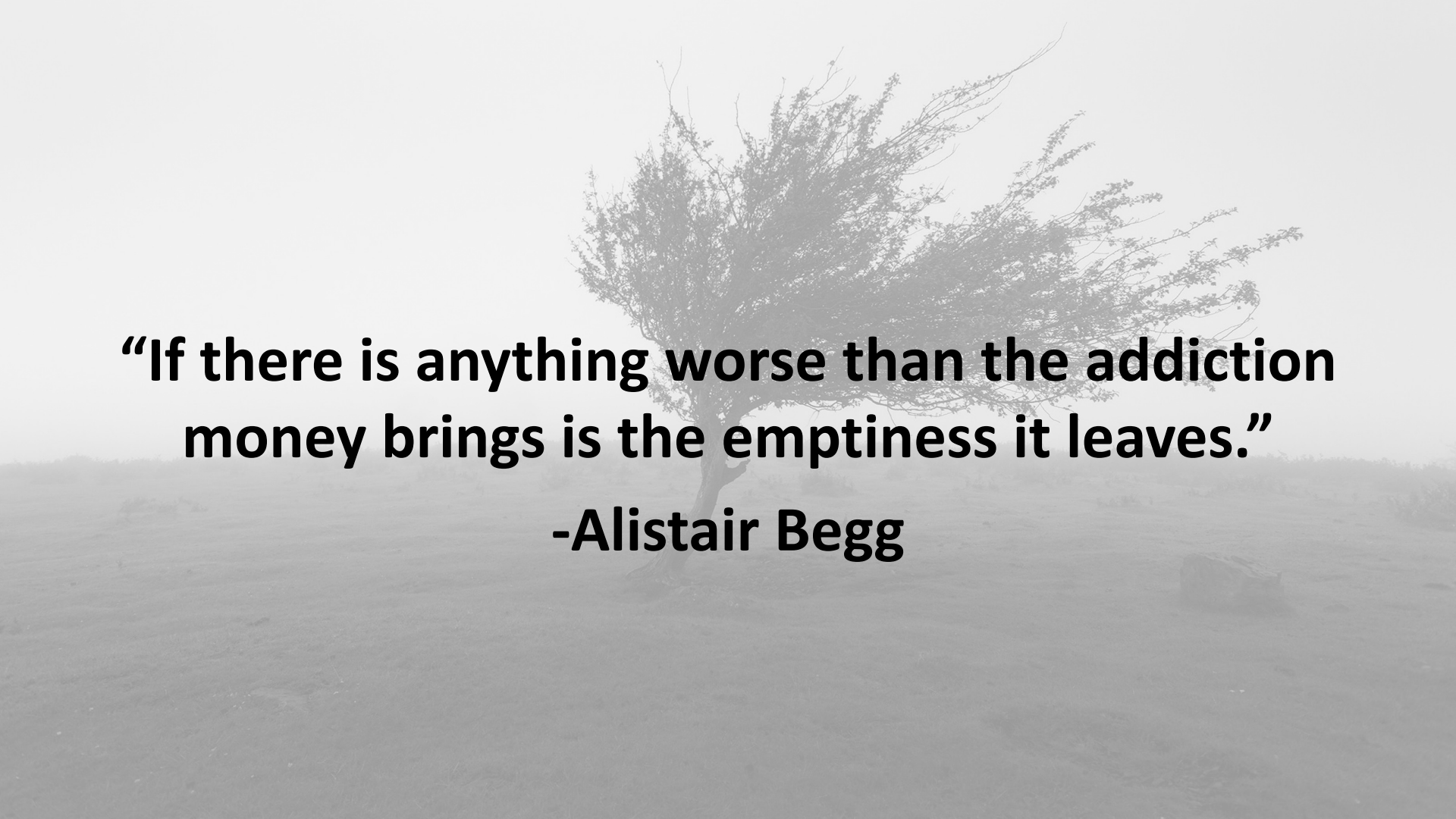




ECCLESIASTES

A grayscale photograph of a lone, wind-swept tree in a desolate, hazy landscape. The tree is the central focus, with its branches leaning to the right. The ground is flat and barren, and the background is a misty, overcast sky. The overall mood is one of isolation and transience.

The Vanity of Wealth

A lone, wind-swept tree stands in a desolate, hazy landscape. The tree is the central focus, with its branches reaching out against a pale, overcast sky. The ground is flat and appears to be a dry, open field. The overall mood is one of isolation and emptiness.

**“If there is anything worse than the addiction
money brings is the emptiness it leaves.”**

-Alistair Begg

Ecclesiastes 5:8-9 (ESV)

⁸ If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. ⁹ But this is gain for a land in every

Ecclesiastes 5:8-9 (ESV)

way: a king committed to cultivated fields.



2 Samuel 23:3-4 (ESV)

³ The God of Israel has spoken; the Rock of Israel has said to me: When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God, ⁴ he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to

Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 (ESV)

¹⁰ He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. ¹¹ When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? ¹² Sweet is

A grayscale background image of a tree in a field. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The ground is a flat, open field, and the sky is a uniform light gray. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 (ESV)

**the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats
little or much, but the full stomach of the
rich will not let him sleep.**

Ecclesiastes 5:13-17 (ESV)

¹³ There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, ¹⁴ and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. ¹⁵ As he came from his mother's womb he shall

Ecclesiastes 5:13-17 (ESV)

go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away

in his hand. ¹⁶ This also is a grievous evil:

just as he came, so shall he go, and what

gain is there to him who toils for the wind?

¹⁷ Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness

Ecclesiastes 5:13-17 (ESV)

in much vexation and sickness and anger.



Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 (ESV)

18 Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot.

19 Everyone also to whom God has given

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 (ESV)

wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. ²⁰ For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

A lone, gnarled tree stands in a misty, open landscape. The tree is the central focus, with its branches reaching out against a pale, hazy sky. The ground is flat and appears to be covered in low-lying vegetation or grass, also shrouded in mist. The overall atmosphere is quiet and contemplative.

**Don't love money; instead, enjoy
God's gifts.**

Ecclesiastes 6:1-6 (ESV)

¹ There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind: ² a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys

Ecclesiastes 6:1-6 (ESV)

them. This is vanity; it is a grievous evil. ³ If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life's good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than

Ecclesiastes 6:1-6 (ESV)

he. ⁴ For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered. ⁵ Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. ⁶ Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place?

Ecclesiastes 6:1-6 (ESV)

no good—do not all go to the one place?

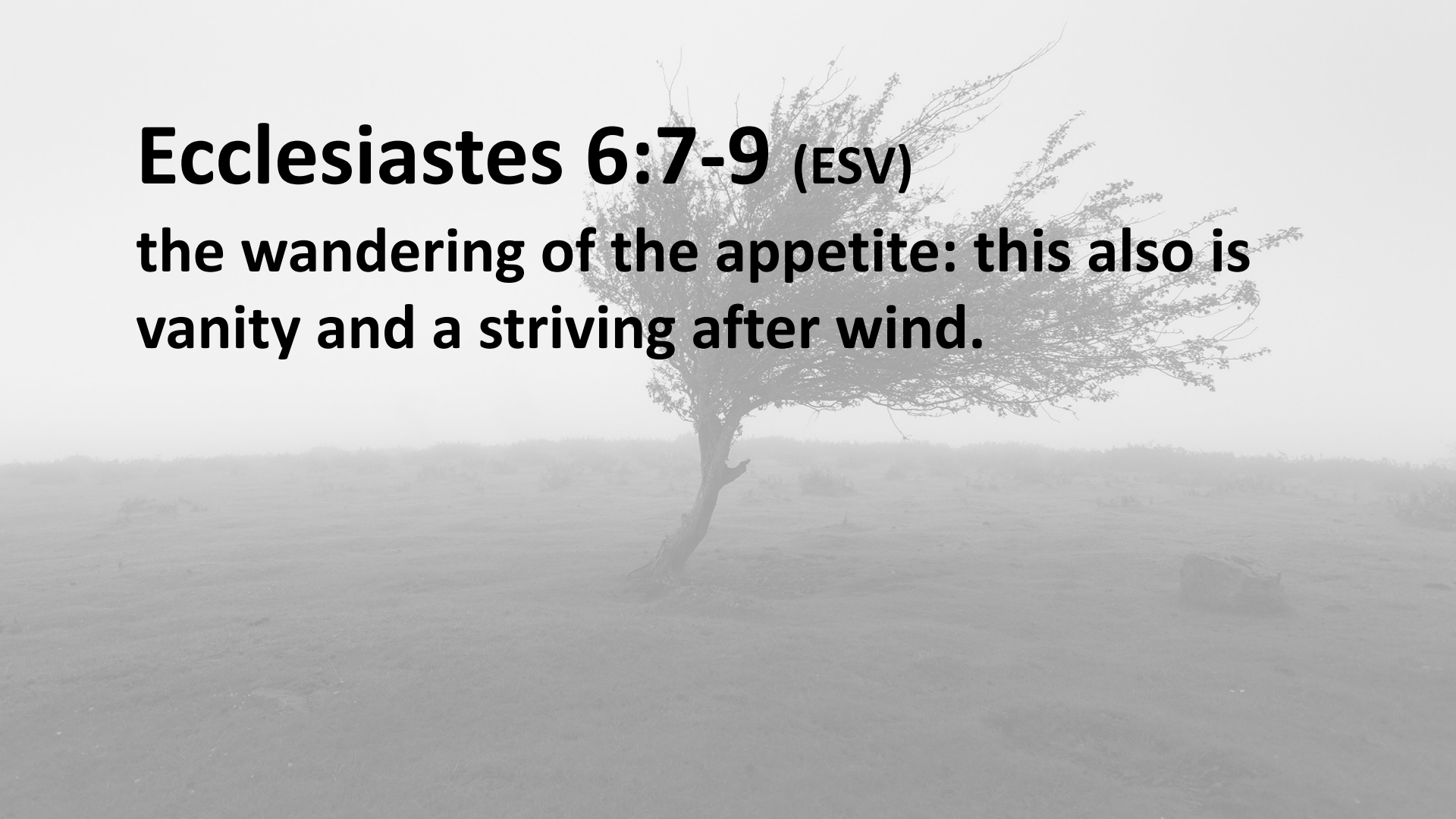


Ecclesiastes 6:7-9 (ESV)

⁷ All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. ⁸ For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? ⁹ Better is the sight of the eyes than

Ecclesiastes 6:7-9 (ESV)

**the wandering of the appetite: this also is
vanity and a striving after wind.**



If you would like to talk to Chuck about the sermon, please feel free to call him or email him.



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