



Life Under The Sun

Our Oppressive Life ***Ecclesiastes 4:1 - 12***



Robin Hood



Superman



Zorro – “The Fox”

Life Under The Sun



1st - *Oppressed By Oppressors*

Ecclesiastes 4:1 - 3

... *I looked* ...



RAHA = “to look or
to inspect”



1st - Oppressed By Oppressors

Ecclesiastes 4:1 - 3

Examples of this type of oppression:

- ***Woman gang raped***
- ***ISIS tortured people***
- ***Teenager torched a sleeping man***
- ***Government that ignores the laws***
- ***Dishonest contractors***
- ***People oppress by gossiping***

1st - Oppressed By Oppressors

Ecclesiastes 4:1 - 3

Better dead . . . & the best - never existed



2nd – Oppressive Competition

Ecclesiastes 4:4

... rivalry ...



**QINAH= “jealousy, rivalry,
zeal and competition”**



**YOU'RE
FIRED**



***Competition
At Work
or
In Life***



2nd – Oppressive Competition

Ecclesiastes 4:4

Examples of this type of oppression:

- ***Between employees***
- ***In the church***
- ***In the home***
- ***In neighborhoods***

Oppression Due to Foolishness

Ecclesiastes 4:5 - 6

I'm lazy



and

I don't care

4th – *Oppression Due Greed*

Ecclesiastes 4:7 - 8

Verse 7 - Vanity under the sun

Verse 8 - Greed drives some to become wealthy

5th – Oppression of the Loner

Ecclesiastes 4:9 - 12

- Verse 9** - ***Loner has less productivity***
- Verse 10** - ***Loner needs help in crisis***
- Verse 11** - ***Loner needs help to be warm***
- Verse 12** - ***Loner needs help to be protected***

How Do We Respond?

- 1. Be wise and work. Prov. 6:6-11*
- 2. When you work, serve the Lord – do not compete. Eph. 6:5-6*
- 3. Be a team member and not a loner.*
- 4. Remember that oppression is due to sin.*

How Do We Respond?

6. God allows suffering:

- *Act of discipline – Heb. 12:4-11*
- *Prove your faith – 1 Peter. 1:6-7*
- *Glorify God – John 9:1-3, 24*
- *Prevent sin – 2 Cor. 12:7-10*
- *For spiritual growth – James 1:1-5*