

Heritage Alliance Church April 23, 2023 Pastor Shawn

Authentic Identity "Designed"

"Be true to yourself... but, who am I?... or who are we?

Designed or Discovered?

King Solomon's Search for MEANING

"I decided to enjoy myself and find out what happiness is"

Ecclesiastes 2:1

Knowledge didn't bring meaning

Success didn't bring meaning

Wealth didn't bring meaning

Pleasure didn't bring meaning

"I tested pleasure ... and laughter ... I tried cheering myself with wine, and having a good time ... I acquired a harem... I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure... But it proved to be meaningless ..."

Ecclesiastes 2:1-3,10

Solomon's Conclusion:

"Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

"...what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them"?

Psalm 8:4

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me." Psalm 139:1

"...through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.

He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—

Everything was created through him and for him."

Colossians 1:16

"...you are precious to me. You are honored, and I love you.

...I have made them for my glory. It was I who created them." Isaiah 43:4,7

Benefits of Knowing your Biblical Identity

Self-confidence:

Resilience to change:

Clarity of purpose & meaning:

Direction for living: Better relationships:

"...like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock." Luke 6:46

How would you define yourself? What do you tell others about yourself when you meet? What does this say about your foundational identity? What identity labels have your pursued? Which have you resisted? What is or has been a primary source of finding your value? Your purpose?