

What purpose does this writing style have?

Why frame the beginning of the book in this fashion?

What is the essential question?

Why does it matter?

**Special Notes for Today:**

At 11:30am – Celebration of Communion in the Sanctuary

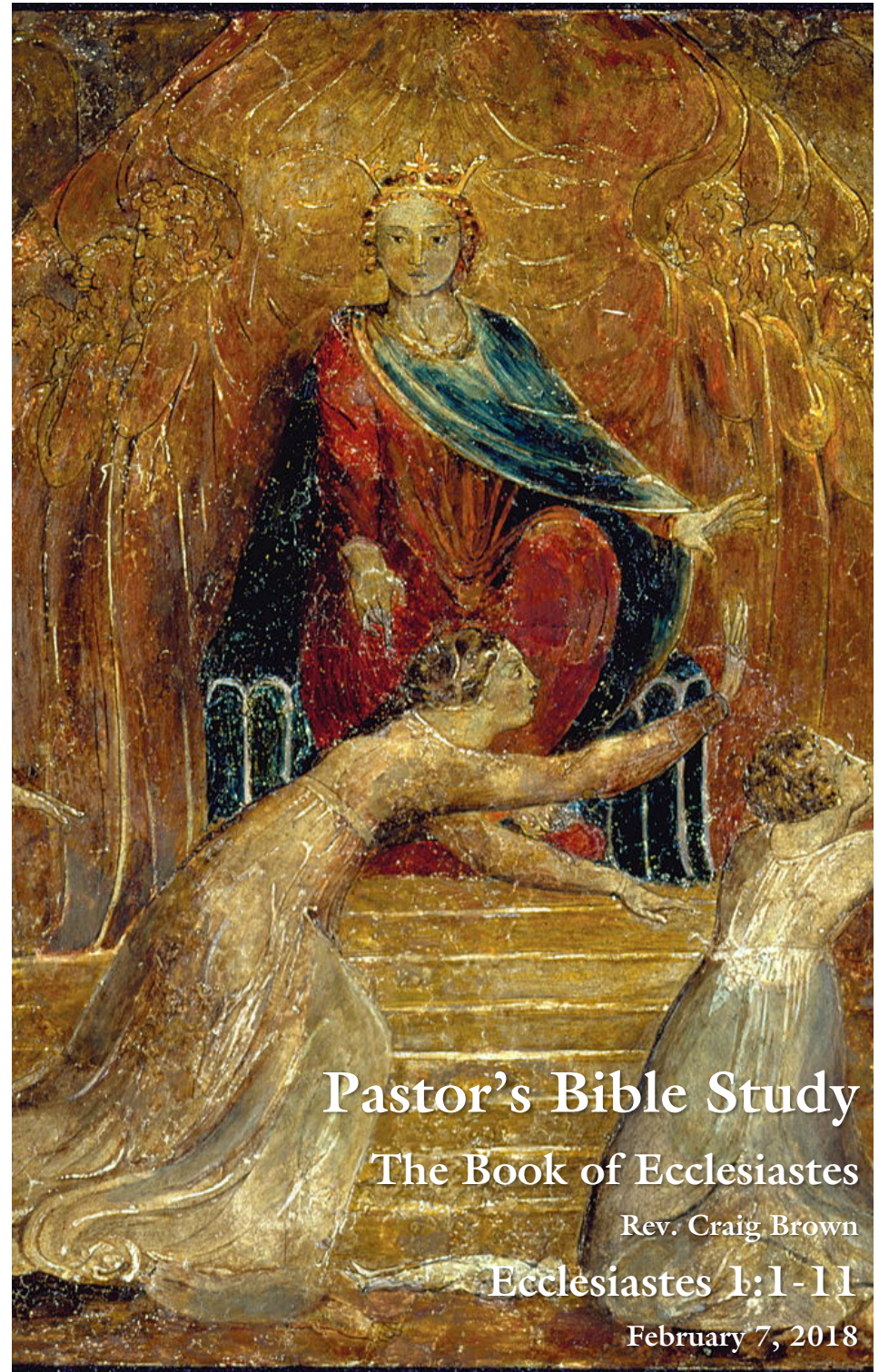
1:00 p.m. – Dr. Sharon Whitehurst-Payne, SDUSD Board

At 8:00pm – Contemplative Encounter in Sanctuary

Next Week: Read Ecclesiastes 1

Wi-Fi Password: Linder1924

Picture: William Blake (1757–1827), The Judgment of Solomon (c 1799-1800), tempera, 26.6 x 38.1 cm, The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, England.



## Getting to Know Ecclesiastes

Solomon or

Not Solomon

### Meanings

Garrett, Duane A. *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. Vol. 14. The New American Commentary. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1993.

1. Pessimistic Sceptic
2. The Preacher of Joy
3. A Thinker Caught in the Tensions of Life
4. An Apologetic Work
5. The Original Existentialist
6. Reflection for the Wise
7. Reflections on Creation & Fall

### Hebrew Poetry

Synonymous Parallelism

Antithetical Parallelism

Synthetic Parallelism

## Setting the Stage

Solomon

Vanity = *hebel*

What does this mean?

### Framing the Human Condition

- 1- The Meaning of Work & Life
- 2- Futility of Generations
- 3- The “Panting” Sun
- 4- The Wind Blowing
- 5- Streams & Sea
- 6- Never Worn Out of Seeing the Same
- 7- Old Is New Is Old
- 8- Ground Hog Day
- 9- Great People of Old & Coming