

Ecclesiastes 1:1

The words of the Preacher *[Qohelet]*,  
the son of David,  
king in Jerusalem.

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2

The words of the Preacher *[Qohelet]*,  
the son of David,  
king in Jerusalem.

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 1:3-7

What does man gain by all the toil  
at which he toils under the sun?

A generation goes, and a generation comes,  
but the earth remains forever.

The sun rises, and the sun goes down,  
and hastens to the place where it rises.

Ecclesiastes 1:3-7

The wind blows to the south  
and goes around to the north;  
around and around goes the wind,  
and on its circuits the wind returns.

All streams run to the sea,  
but the sea is not full;  
to the place where the streams flow,  
there they flow again.

Ecclesiastes 1:8

All things are full of weariness;  
a man cannot utter it;  
the eye is not satisfied with seeing,  
nor the ear filled with hearing.

Proverbs 27:20

Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied,  
and never satisfied are the eyes of man.

Habakkuk 2:5

His greed is as wide as Sheol;  
like death he has never enough.

Ecclesiastes 1:8-9

All things are full of weariness;  
a man cannot utter it;  
the eye is not satisfied with seeing,  
nor the ear filled with hearing.

What has been is what will be,  
and what has been done is what will be done,  
and there is nothing new under the sun.

Whatever my eyes desired

I did not keep from them.

I kept my heart from no pleasure,

for my heart found pleasure in all my toil,

and this was my reward for all my toil.

Then I considered all that my hands had done

and the toil I had expended in doing it,

and behold, all was vanity

and a striving after wind,

and there was nothing to be gained

under the sun.



Ecclesiastes 2:13-14a

Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom  
than in folly,  
as there is more gain in light  
than in darkness.

The wise person has his eyes in his head,  
but the fool walks in darkness.

And yet I perceived that the same event  
happens to all of them.

Then I said in my heart,  
‘What happens to the fool will happen to me also.  
Why then have I been so very wise?’

And I said in my heart  
that this also is vanity.

For of the wise as of the fool  
there is no enduring remembrance,  
seeing that in the days to come  
all will have been long forgotten.  
How the wise dies just like the fool!

So I hated life,  
because what is done under the sun  
was grievous to me,  
for all is vanity  
and a striving after wind.

Ecclesiastes 2:18-19

I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun,  
seeing that I must leave it to the man  
who will come after me,  
and who knows whether  
he will be wise or a fool?  
Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled  
and used my wisdom under the sun.

This also is vanity.

I said in my heart  
with regard to the children of man  
that God is testing them that they may see  
that they themselves are but beasts.

For what happens to the children of man  
and what happens to the beasts is the same;  
as one dies, so dies the other.  
They all have the same breath,  
and man has no advantage over the beasts,  
for all is vanity.

All go to one place.  
All are from the dust,  
and to dust all return.

Who knows whether  
the spirit of man goes upward  
and the spirit of the beast  
goes down into the earth?

Ecclesiastes 4:1

Again I saw all the oppressions  
that are done under the sun.

And behold, the tears of the oppressed,  
and they had no one to comfort them!

On the side of their oppressors there was power,  
and there was no one to comfort them.

Ecclesiastes 4:4

Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work  
come from a man's envy of his neighbor.

This also is vanity  
and a striving after wind.



Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

There is nothing better for a person  
than that he should eat and drink  
and find enjoyment in his toil.

This also, I saw, is from the hand of God,  
for apart from him who can eat  
or who can have enjoyment?

Ecclesiastes 5:15-17

As he came from his mother's womb  
he shall go again, naked as he came,  
and shall take nothing for his toil  
that he may carry away in his hand.

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?  
Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness  
in much vexation and sickness and anger.

Ecclesiastes 5:18

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.

Ecclesiastes 7:11-12

Wisdom is good with an inheritance,  
an advantage to those who see the sun.

For the protection of wisdom  
is like the protection of money,  
and the advantage of knowledge  
is that wisdom preserves the life  
of him who has it.

It is the same for all,  
since the same event happens  
to the righteous and the wicked,  
to the good and the evil,  
to the clean and the unclean,  
to him who sacrifices  
and him who does not sacrifice.  
As is the good, so is the sinner,  
and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath.

This is an evil in all that is done under the sun,  
that the same event happens to all.

Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

Go, eat your bread in joy,  
and drink your wine with a merry heart,  
for God has already approved what you do.  
Let your garments be always white.  
Let not oil be lacking on your head.

Enjoy life with the wife whom you love,  
all the days of your vain life  
that he has given you under the sun,  
because that is your portion in life  
and in your toil at which you toil under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

Whatever your hand finds to do,  
do it with your might,  
for there is no work or thought  
or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol,  
to which you are going.

Again I saw that under the sun  
the race is not to the swift,  
nor the battle to the strong,  
nor bread to the wise,  
nor riches to the intelligent,  
nor favor to those with knowledge,  
but time and chance happen to them all.

For man does not know his time.

Like fish that are taken in an evil net,  
and like birds that are caught in a snare,  
so the children of man are snared at an evil time,  
when it suddenly falls upon them.



Light is sweet,  
and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.  
So if a person lives many years,  
let him rejoice in them all;  
but let him remember that  
the days of darkness will be many.

All that comes is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 11:9-10

Rejoice, O young man, in your youth,  
and let your heart cheer you  
in the days of your youth.

Walk in the ways of your heart  
and the sight of your eyes.

But know that for all these things  
God will bring you into judgment.  
Remove vexation from your heart,  
and put away pain from your body,  
for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.

Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

Remember also your Creator  
in the days of your youth,  
before the evil days come  
and the years draw near of which you will say,  
'I have no pleasure in them' ...

Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

before the sun and the light  
and the moon and the stars are darkened  
and the clouds return after the rain,  
in the day when the keepers of the house tremble,  
and the strong men are bent,  
and the grinders cease because they are few,  
and those who look through the windows  
are dimmed,  
and the doors on the street are shut –

Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

when the sound of the grinding is low,  
and one rises up at the sound of a bird,  
and all the daughters of song are brought low –  
they are afraid also of what is high,  
and terrors are in the way;  
the almond tree blossoms,  
the grasshopper drags itself along,  
and desire fails,  
because man is going to his eternal home,  
and the mourners go about the streets –

Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

before the silver cord is snapped,  
or the golden bowl is broken,  
or the pitcher is shattered at the fountain,  
or the wheel broken at the cistern,  
and the dust returns to the earth as it was,  
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

Ecclesiastes 12:8

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher.  
All is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 12:9-10

Besides being wise,  
the Preacher also taught the people knowledge,  
weighing and studying and arranging  
many proverbs with great care.

The Preacher sought to find words of delight,  
and uprightly he wrote words of truth.



Ecclesiastes 12:11-12

The words of the wise are like goads,  
and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings;  
they are given by one Shepherd.

My son, beware of anything beyond these.  
Of making many books there is no end,  
and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

The end of the matter; all has been heard.

Fear God and keep his commandments,  
for this is the whole duty of man.

For God will bring every deed into judgment,  
with every secret thing,  
whether good or evil.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world,  
that he gave his only Son,  
that whoever believes in him  
should not perish  
but have eternal life.

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John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this,  
that someone lays down his life for his friends.