	Chapter 1 î⊕ ↓ ⊢	Jerusale		under the sun?	O	to his place where he arose.	the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.
Ecclesiast 3 3	es						
	7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.	8 All things are full of labour; man cannot utter it: the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.	9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the	10 Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.	11 There is no remembrance of former things; neither shall there be any remembrance of things that are to come with those that shall	12 I the Preacher was king over Israel in Jerusalem.	13 And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to

1 The words

of the

Preacher, the

son of David,

king in

2 Vanity of

vanities, saith

the Preacher,

vanity of

vanities; all is

sun.

3 What profit

hath a man

of all his

labour which

he taketh

4 One

generation

passeth away,

and another

generation

come after.

 $5~\mathrm{The~sun}$

also ariseth,

and the sun

goeth down,

and hasteth

6 The wind goeth toward

the south,

and turneth

about unto

the sons of man to be exercised therewith.

14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

15 That which is crooked cannot be made straight: and that which is wanting cannot be numbered.

16 I communed with mine own heart, saying, Lo, I am come to great estate, and have gotten more wisdom than all they that have been before me in Jerusalem: yea, my heart had great experience of wisdom and

knowledge.

17 And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: I perceived that this also is vexation of spirit.

18 For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increasethsorrow.

1 I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity.

2 I said of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?

Chapter 2

3 I sought in
mine heart to
give myself
unto wine,
yet
acquainting
mine heart
with wisdom;
and to lay
hold on folly,
till I might
see what was
that good for
the sons of
men, which
they should
do under the
heaven all the
days of their
life.
шс.

4 I made me 5 I made me great works; I gardens and orchards, and I planted of all kind of fruits:

builded me

houses; I

planted me

vineyards:

6 I made me pools of water, to water trees in them therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees:

7 I got me 8 I gathered servants and me also silver maidens, and and gold, and had servants the peculiar treasure of born in my house; also I kings and of had great the provinces: possessions of I gat me men great and singers and small cattle women above all that singers, and were in the delights Jerusalem of the sons of before me: men, as musical instruments, and that of all sorts.

9 So I was great, and increased more than all desired I kept that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me.

10 And whatsoever mine eyes not from them. I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of of spirit, and all my labour. there was no the sun.

11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation profit under

12 And I turned myself to behold wisdom, and madness, and folly: for what can the man do that cometh after the king? even that which hath been already done.

13 Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness.

14 The wise man's eyes are in his head; but the happeneth to fool walketh in darkness: and I myself perceived also that one event happeneth to them all.

15 Then said I in my heart, As it the fool, so it happeneth even to me; and why was I then more wise? Then I said in my heart, that this also is vanity.

16 For there is no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool for ever; seeing that which now is in the days to come shall all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise man? as the fool.

17 Therefore 18 Yea, I I hated life: hated all my because the labour which work that is I had taken wrought under the under the sun sun: because is grievous I should leave unto me: for it unto the man that all is vanity and vexation shall be after of spirit. me.

20 Therefore 19 And who knoweth I went about whether he to cause my shall be a heart to wise man or a despair of all fool? yet the labour shall he have which I took rule over all under the my labour sun. wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have shewed myself wise under the sun. This is also vanity.

21 For there is a man whose labour is in wisdom, and in knowledge, and in equity; vet to a man that hath not laboured therein shall he leave it for his portion. This also is vanity and a great evil.

22 For what hath man of all his labour, and of the vexation of his heart, wherein he hath laboured under the sun?

23 For all his days are sorrows, and his travail grief; yea, his heart taketh not rest in the night. This is also vanity.

24 There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.

25 For who can eat, or who else can hasten hereunto, more than I?

26 For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit.

1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

Chapter 3 占

2 A time to 3 A time to 4 A time to be born, and kill, and a weep, and a a time to die; time to heal; time to a time to a time to laugh; a time plant, and a break down, to mourn, time to pluck and a time to and a time to up that which build up; dance; is planted;

5 A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

6 A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

7 A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to peace. speak;

8 A time to love, and a hath he that time to hate: worketh in a time of war, that wherein and a time of he laboureth?

9 What profit 10 I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it.

11 He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

12 I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life.

13 And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.

14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.

15 That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.

16 And 17 I said in moreover I mine heart, saw under the God shall sun the place judge the of judgment, righteous and that the wicked: wickedness for there is a time there for was there; and the place every purpose of righteousand for every ness, that work. iniquity was there.

18 I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts.

19 For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts: even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath: so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity.

20 All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

21 Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?

22 Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?

considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had no comforter: and on the side of their oppressors there was power; but they had no comforter.

Chapter 4

1 So I

returned, and

2 Wherefore I praised the dead which are already dead more than the living which are yet alive.

3 Yea, better is he than both they, which hath not yet been, who hath not seen the evil work that is done under the sun.

4 Again, I considered all travail, and every right work, that for this a man is envied of his neighbour. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.

5 The fool foldeth his hands eateth his own flesh.

6 Better is an handful with returned, and quietness, together, and than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit.

7 Then I I saw vanity under the sun.

8 There is one alone, and there is not a second; yea, he hath neither child nor brother: yet is there no end of all his labour; neither is his eye satisfied with riches; neither saith he, For whom do I labour, and bereave my soul of good? This is also vanity, yea, it is a sore travail.

9 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

two lie together, then they have heat: but how can alone?

11 Again, if

12 And if one 13 Better is a prevail poor and a wise child against him, two shall than an old and foolish withstand him: and a king, who will one be warm threefold cord no more be is not quickly admonished. broken.

14 For out of prison he cometh to reign; whereas also he that is born in his kingdom becometh poor.

15 I considered all the living which walk under the sun, with the second child that shall stand up in his stead.

16 There is no end of all the people, even of all that have been before them: they also that come after shall not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and vexation of spirit.

1 Keep thy

Chapter 5

foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil.

2 Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.

3 For a dream 4 When thou vowest a vow cometh through the unto God, defer not to multitude of business; and pay it; for he a fool's voice hath no is known by pleasure in multitude of fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

words.

5 Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

6 Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?

7 For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: but judgment and fear thou God.

8 If thou seest the oppression of the poor, and violent perverting of justice in a province, marvel not at the matter: for he that is higher than the highest regardeth; and there be higher than they.

9 Moreover the profit of the earth is for all: the king himself is served by the field.

10 He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.

11 When goods are increased that eat them: and what good is there to the owners thereof, saving the beholding of them with

their eyes?

12 The sleep 13 There is a of a labouring increase, they man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep.

sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt.

14 But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand.

15 As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand.

16 And this also is a sore evil, that in all points as he came, so shall he go: and what profit hath he that hath laboured for the wind?

17 All his days also he eateth in darkness, and he hath much sorrow and wrath with his sickness.

18 Behold that which I have seen: it is good and comely for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour that he taketh under the sun all the days of his life, which God giveth him: for it is his portion.

19 Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God.

20 For he shall not much remember the days of his life; because God answereth him in the joy of his heart.

Chapter 6





1 There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, and it is common among men:

2 A man to whom God hath given riches, wealth, and honour, so that he wanteth nothing for his soul of all that he desireth, yet God giveth him not power to eat thereof, but a stranger eateth it: this is vanity, and it is an evil disease.

3 If a man beget an hundred children, and live many vears, so that the days of his years be many, and his soul be not filled with good, and also that he have no burial; I say, that an untimely birth is better than he.

4 For he cometh in with vanity, and departeth in darkness, and his name shall be covered with darkness.

5 Moreover he hath not seen the sun, nor known any thing: this hath more rest than the other.

6 Yea, though he live a thousand years twice told, yet hath he seen no good: do not all go to one place?

7 All the labour of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled.

8 For what 9 Better is hath the wise the sight of more than the eyes than the fool? the what hath wandering of the poor, the desire: that knoweth this is also to walk vanity and before the vexation of spirit. living?

11 Seeing 12 For who there be knoweth many things what is good that increase for man in vanity, what this life, all is man the the days of better? his vain life which he spendeth as a shadow? for who can tell a man what shall be after him under

the sun?

1 A good

name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

2 It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart.

4 The heart 3 Sorrow is of the wise is better than laughter: for in the house of mourning; by the sadness of the but the heart countenance of fools is in the heart is the house of made better. mirth.

Chapter 7





5 It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.

6 For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity.

7 Surely oppression maketh a wise man mad; and a gift destroyeth the heart.

8 Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

9 Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.

10 Say not the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this.

11 Wisdom is thou, What is good with an inheritance: and by it there is profit to them that see the sun.

12 For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.

13 Consider the work of God: for who can make that straight, which he hath made

crooked?

14 In the day 15 All things of prosperity have I seen in be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after his life in his him. wickedness.

16 Be not righteous the days of over much; my vanity: neither make thyself over there is a just man that wise: why perisheth in shouldesthis righteousthou destroy thyself? ness, and there is a wicked man that prolongeth

17 Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time?

18 It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all.

19 Wisdom 20 For there strengtheneth is not a just the wise more man upon than ten earth, that mighty men doeth good, which are in and sinneth not.

the city.

21 Also take no heed unto all words that are spoken: thy servant curse thee:

22 For oftentimes also thine own heart lest thou hear knoweth that thou thyself likewise hast cursed others.

23 All this have I proved by wisdom: I said, I will be wise; but it was far from me.

24 That which is far off, and exceeding deep, who can find it out?

25 I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness:

26 And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinner shall be taken by her.

27 Behold, this have I found, saith the preacher, counting one by one, to find out the account:

28 Which yet my soul seeketh, but I find not: one man among a thousand have I found; but a woman among all those have I not found.

29 Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.

Chapter 8





1 Who is as
the wise
man? and
who knoweth
the
interpretation
of a thing? a
man's
wisdom
maketh his
face to shine,
and the
boldness of
his face shall
be changed.

2 I counsel thee to keep the king's commandment, and that in regard of the oath of God. 3 Be not hasty to go out of his sight: stand not in an evil thing; for he doeth whatsoever pleaseth him. 4 Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?

5 Whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and a wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment.

6 Because to
every
purpose there
is time and
judgment,
therefore the
misery of
man is great
upon him.

7 For he knoweth not that which shall be: for who can tell him when it shall be?

8 There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.

9 All this have I seen, and applied my heart unto every work that is done under the sun: there is a time wherein one man ruleth over another to his own hurt.

10 And so I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of the holy, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done: this is also vanity.

11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:

13 But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

14 There is a vanity which is done upon the earth; that there be just men, unto whom it happeneth according to the work of the wicked: again, there be wicked men, to whom it happeneth according to the work of the righteous: I said that this also is vanity.

15 Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry: for that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun.

16 When I applied mine heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the earth: (for also there is that neither day nor night seeth sleep with his eyes:)

17 Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labour to seek it out, vet he shall not find it; yea farther; though a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it.

1 For all this I considered in my heart even to declare all this, that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God: no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that is before them.

2 All things come alike to all: there is one event to the righteous, and to the wicked; to the good and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth, and to him that sacrificeth not: as is the good, so is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath.

3 This is an 4 For to him that is joined evil among all things to all the that are done living there is hope: for a under the sun, that living dog is there is one better than a event unto dead lion. all: yea, also the heart of the sons of

men is full of

evil, and

madness is in

their heart

while they

live, and after

that they go to the dead.

5 For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward: for the memory of them is forgotten.

6 Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under

the sun.

7 Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works.

8 Let thy garments be always white; and let thy

head lack no

ointment.

Chapter 9

9 Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun.

10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, sun, that the do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

11 I returned, and saw under the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor vet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

12 For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.

13 This wisdom have I seen also under the sun, and it seemed great unto me:

a little city, and few men it a poor wise within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: poor man.

14 There was 15 Now there 16 Then said was found in I, Wisdom is better than man, and he strength: by his nevertheless wisdom the poor delivered the man's wisdom is city; yet no man despised, and his words are remembered not heard. that same

17 The words of wise men are heard in quiet more than the cry of him that ruleth among fools.

18 Wisdom is better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good.

1 Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour.

2 A wise man's heart is at his right hand: but a fool's heart at his left.

3 Yea also, when he that is a fool walketh by the way, his wisdom faileth him, and he saith to every one that he is a fool.

5 There is an 4 If the spirit evil which I of the ruler rise up have seen under the against thee, leave not thy sun, as an place; for error which yielding proceedeth pacifieth from the ruler: great

offences.

Chapter 10



6 Folly is set 7 I have seen 8 He that 9 Whoso 10 If the iron 11 Surely the 12 The words 13 The 14 A fool also in great servants upon diggeth a pit removeth be blunt, and serpent will of a wise beginning of is full of dignity, and shall fall into stones shall he do not bite without man's mouth the words of words: a man horses, and the rich sit in princes it; and whoso be hurt whet the enchantment; are gracious; his mouth is cannot tell low place. walking as breaketh an therewith; but the lips foolishness: edge, then and a babbler what shall servants upon hedge, a and he that must he put is no better. of a fool will and the end be; and what cleaveth the earth. serpent shall to more swallow up of his talk is shall be after bite him. wood shall be strength: but himself. mischievous him, who can tell him? endangered wisdom is madness. thereby. profitable to direct.

15 The labour of the foolish wearieth every one of them, because he knoweth not how to go to the city.

16 Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child, and thy princes eat in the morning!

17 Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!

18 By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth

through.

19 A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.

20 Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter.

1 Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

Chapter 11

2 Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.

3 If the clouds be full observeth the of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be.

4 He that wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.

5 As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all.

6 In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.

7 Truly the 8 But if a light is sweet, man live and a many years, pleasant and rejoice in them all; yet thing it is for the eves to let him behold the remember the days of sun: darkness; for they shall be many. All that cometh

is vanity.

9 Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

10 Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.

1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

2 While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain:

3 In the day 4 And the when the doors shall be keepers of the shut in the house shall streets, when tremble, and the sound of the strong the grinding men shall is low, and he bow shall rise up themselves, at the voice and the of the bird. grinders cease and all the because they daughters of are few, and musick shall those that be brought look out of low; the windows

be darkened,

5 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the

streets:

6 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.

Chapter 12

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7 Then shall 8 Vanity of the dust vanities, saith return to the the preacher; earth as it all is vanity. was: and the spirit shall return unto God who

gave it.

9 And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs.

10 The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, truth.

11 The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from

12 And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and a weariness of the flesh.

13 Let us 14 For God hear the shall bring conclusion of every work the whole into matter: Fear judgment, God, and with every keep his comsecret thing, mandments: whether it be for this is the good, or even words of one shepherd. much study is whole duty of whether it be man. evil.