

Ecclesiastes 1

1 The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

Who is speaking?

2 "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher; "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

What is Vanity?

3 What profit has a man from all his labor In which he toils under the sun? 4 One generation passes away, and another generation comes; But the earth abides forever.

If this is true, why do any work at all?

5 The sun also rises, and the sun goes down, And hastens to the place where it arose. 6 The wind goes toward the south, And turns around to the north; The wind whirls about continually, And comes again on its circuit. 7 All the rivers run into the sea, Yet the sea is not full; To the place from which the rivers come, There they return again. 8 All things are full of labor; Man cannot express it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, Nor the ear filled with hearing.

What do you imagine the pinnacle point of your life will be? What do you think will happen to your gains at the end of your life?



S	W	G	V	J	O	Y	B
N	K	N	S	A	R	T	W
I	R	I	H	E	I	I	N
A	O	N	C	P	S	N	H
R	W	A	R	D	N	A	T
B	E	E	O	W	P	V	U
P	T	M	J	P	N	I	R
H	V	S	Y	E	K	E	T

WORK	JOY
HAPPY	PEACE
VAIN	KEYS
MEANING	TRUTH
BRAINS	WISDOM

9 That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done, And there is nothing new under the sun. 10 Is there anything of which it may be said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in ancient times before us. 11 There is no remembrance of former things, Nor will there be any remembrance of things that are to come By those who will come after.

Do you think we have seen anything new since the wisest man ever, said there isn't anything new?

The Grief of Wisdom

12 I, the Preacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. 13 And I set my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all that is done under heaven; this burdensome task God has given to the sons of man, by which they may be exercised. 14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and indeed, all is vanity and grasping for the wind.

People gain knowledge to do a task. Why would this be vain and should you do it anyways?

(The Way of Kings)

15 What is crooked cannot be made straight, And what is lacking cannot be numbered. 16 I communed with my heart, saying, "Look, I have attained greatness, and have gained more wisdom than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My heart has understood great wisdom and knowledge." 17 And I set my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind.

Is there anything worth doing and why?

18 For in much wisdom is much grief, And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.

Can you think of a reason it might be better to be less wise?