

{21} Ecclesiastes

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

(7) Because he does not know that which will be: because who can tell him when it will be?

(8) *There is* no man who has power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither does he have power in the day of death: and *there is* no discharge in *that* war; neither will wickedness deliver those who are given to it.

(9) All this have I seen, and applied my heart to every work that is done under the sun: *there is* a time in which one man rules 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 is not executed speedily against an evil work, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

(12) Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his *days* are prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with those who fear {reverence} God, who fear before Him:

(13) But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong *his* days, *which are* as a shadow; because he does not fear {reverence} God.

(14) There is a vanity which is done upon the earth; that there are just *men*, to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked; again, there are wicked *men*, to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous: I said that this also *is* vanity.

(15) Then I commended joy, because a man has no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry: because his labor the days of his life will stay with him, which God gives him under the sun.

(16) When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the earth: (because also *there is that one who* neither day nor night sees sleep with his eyes:)

(17) Then I saw all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labors to seek *it* out, yet he will not find *it*; yes further; though a wise *man* thinks to know *it*, yet he will not be able to find *it*.

Chapter 9

(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 hands of God: no man knows either love or hatred *by* all *that is* before them.

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(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 who sacrifices, and to him who does not sacrifice: as *is* the good, so *is* the sinner; *and* he who swears, as *he* who fears an oath.

(3) *This is* an evil among all *things* that are done under the sun, that *there is* one event to all: yes, 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.

(4) Because to him who is joined to all the living there is hope: because a living dog is better than a dead lion.

(5) Because the living know that they will die: but the dead do not know anything, neither do they have any more a reward; because the memory of them is forgotten.

(6) Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither do they have any more a portion forever in *anything* that is done under the sun.

(7) Go your way, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart; because God now accepts your works.

(8) Let your clothes be always white; and let your head lack no ointment.

(9) Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of the life of your vanity, which He has given you under the sun, all the days of your vanity: because that *is* your portion in *this* life, and in your labor which you take under the sun.

(10) Whatever your hand finds to do, do *it* with your might; because *there is* no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, where you go.

(11) I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race *is* not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of skill; but time and chance happens to them all.

(12) Because man also does not know his time: as the fish 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 comes suddenly upon them.

(13) This wisdom I have seen also under the sun, and it *seemed* great to me:

(14) *There was* a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: