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Ecclesiastes

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Ecclesiastes

1 The words of Qoheleth, the son of David, king in Jerusalem,

[2] "Vapor of vapors," says Qoheleth.
"Vapor of vapors; the whole *is* vapor."

[3] What profit *belongs* to humanity
in exchange for all his toil that he toils under the sun?

[4] A generation is going and a generation is coming,
but the earth is standing in perpetuity.
[5] And the sun rises and the sun sets;
and to its place, panting, it is rising there.
[6] Going to *the* south and turning to *the* north,
turning, turning, the wind is going;
and on its courses, the wind is returning.
[7] All the rivers are going to the sea,
but the sea—there is no fullness of it.
To a place that the rivers are going—
there, they are going again.
[8] All the things *are* wearisome;
a person is not able to speak.
An eye is not satisfied of seeing,
and an ear is not filled from hearing.
[9] Whatever that which was, it *is* that which will be,
and whatever that which has been done, it
is that which will be done.
And there is not anything new under the sun.
[10] *Is* there a thing about which one says,
"See this, it *is* new?"
It already existed in ages
that were from before our faces.
[11] There is not a memory of the former *times*,
and also, of the latter *times* that will be;
memory will not be of them,
along with those that will be at the latter *time*.

[12] I, Qoheleth, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. [13] So I gave my heart to seek and to explore with wisdom concerning all that is done under the heavens. It *is* an unpleasant business God has given to the sons of humanity to be busy with it. [14] I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and—behold—everything *is* vapor and pursuit of wind.

[15] A bent *thing*—one is not able to straighten *it*,
and lack is not able to be counted.

[16] I spoke, I, with my heart, saying, "I—behold—I have grown and increased wisdom over all who were before my face over Jerusalem, and my heart has seen much wisdom and knowledge." [17] So, I gave my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I know that also this—it *is* pursuit of wind.

[18] For in much wisdom *is* much anger,
and *when* one increases knowledge, he
increases pain.

2 I spoke, I with my heart, "Come, let me test you with joy and see good." But behold, it also *was* vapor. [2] To laughter I said, "Madness!" And to joy, "What is this doing?" [3] I explored in my heart to drag my flesh with wine (and my heart was guiding *me* with wisdom) and to seize folly until I could see where *is the* good for the sons of humanity that they might do under the heavens *during* the number of the days of their lives.

[4] I enlarged my deeds. I built for myself houses. I planted for myself vineyards. [5] I made for myself orchards and royal parks, and I planted in them a tree of each fruit. [6] I made for myself pools of waters to cause to drink from them a forest of growing trees. [7] I acquired male servants and female servants and sons of the house belonged to me. Also, much property of cattle and sheep belonged to me, more than all who were to my face in Jerusalem. [8] I also amassed for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I appointed for myself male singers and female singers and the pleasures of the sons of humanity: breast and breasts.

[9] So I became great, and I increased more than all who were to my face in Jerusalem. Also, my wisdom stood by me. [10] And all that my eyes asked, I did not refuse from them. I did not restrain my heart from any joy, because my heart *was* joyful from all my toil and this was my portion from all my toil. [11] And I turned, I, to all my works that my hands had done and to *the* toil that I toiled to do and behold, everything *was* vapor and pursuit of wind, and there was no profit under the sun.

[12] So I turned, I, to see wisdom and madness and folly, because what *can* the person *do* who will come after the king *than* that which he has already done? [13] And I saw, I, that there is a profit for wisdom more than folly, as *there is* a profit of the light more than the darkness.

[14] The wise, his eyes *are* in his head,
but the fool in the darkness is walking.

But I know, even I, that one happening will happen to both of them.

[15] And I spoke, I, with my heart, "As *the* happening of the fool, even *to* me—it will happen *to* me! And why was I, I, wise then, abundantly?" And I said to my heart that also this *is* vapor. [16] For there is no memory of the wise *person* with the fool in perpetuity, because already, *in* the coming days, both *will be* forgotten. Alas! The wise die with the fool!

[17] And I hated life, because bad to me *was* the work that was done under the sun, because everything *was* vapor and pursuit of wind. [18] And I hated, I, all my toil that I had toiled under the sun, that I will leave it to the person who will be after me. [19] And who knows: Will he be wise or a fool? And he will have authority over all my toil that I toiled and *for* which I was wise under the sun. Also, this *is* vapor.

[20] Then I turned, I, to cause my heart to despair concerning all the toil which I toiled under the sun. [21] For there is a person whose toil *is* with wisdom and with knowledge and with skill, but to a person who has not toiled for it, he will give it *as* his portion. This also *is* vapor and a great misfortune. [22] For what endures for the person in exchange for all his toil and in the striving of his heart *in* which he *is* a toiler under the sun? [23] For all his days *are* pains, and anger *is* his business; even in the night, his heart does not rest. Also this—it *is* vapor.

24 There is nothing better for humanity *than* that he should
eat and drink and cause his spirit to see good in his toil.
Also, this I saw, I, that it *is* from the hand of the God, 25 for
who will eat and who will enjoy apart from him? 26 For
to a person who *is* good to his face, he gives wisdom and
knowledge and joy. But to the sinner, he gives *the* business of
gathering and of collecting to give to *the* one who is good to
the face of the God. Even this *is* vapor and pursuit of wind.

3 For everything *there is* a season, and a time for every
matter under the heavens:

2 a time to give birth and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to tear out what was planted,
3 a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to break down and a time to build,
4 a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
5 a time to throw stones and a time to gather stones,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
6 a time to seek and a time to lose,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
7 a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
8 a time to love and a time to hate,
a time of war and a time of peace.

9 What *is the* profit of the one who does in exchange for
that which he *is* toiling?
10 I saw the business that God gives to the sons of humanity
to be busy with it. 11 He makes everything beautiful in its
time. Also, he gives perpetuity in their heart, yet so that
humanity cannot find the work that the God does from
beginning to end. 12 I know that there is no good for them
except to rejoice and to do good during his life, 13 and every
person who eats and drinks and sees good in all of his toil—it
is a gift of God. 14 I know that everything that God does, it
will be enduring. To it, there is nothing to add, and from it,
there is nothing to remove.
And God acts so that they fear from before his face.

15 Whatever that is, already it *was*,
and that which is to be, already it is.
And the God seeks that which is pursued.

16 But again, I saw under the sun: The place of
justice—there *was* wickedness, and the place of equity—there
was wickedness! 17 I spoke, I with my heart: "The equitable
and the wicked the God will judge, because a time *exists* for
every matter and on account of every deed there." 18 I spoke,
I, with my heart, "For the sake of the sons of humanity,
the God *is* to test them to see that *they are* animal*s*, they
themselves." 19 For the happening of the sons of humanity
and the happening of the animal—and one happening *is* for
them. As the death of this *one*, so the death of this *one*, and
one spirit *exists* for both. But an advantage of humanity over
the animal, there is none, for everything *is* vapor. 20 Both are
going to one place. Both are from the dust, and both return to
the dust. 21 Who knows? The spirit of the sons of humanity,
it *is* the one going up, upwards, and the spirit of the animal,
it *is* the one going down, downwards to the earth. 22 So, I
saw that there is nothing better than that humanity should
rejoice in his works, for it *is* his portion. For who will bring
him to look at what that will be after him?

4 And I turned, I, and I saw all the oppressions that were
being done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the
oppressed—and there was no comforter for them. And from
the hand of *the ones* oppressing them *was* strength, and there
was no comforter for them. 2 So I praised, I, the dead *people*
who have already died more than the living, who, they are
still alive. 3 But better than *the* two of them *is* the one who
has not yet lived, who has not seen the evil deed that is
being done under the sun.
4 And I saw, I, every toil and every success of the deed—that
it *is* the envy of a person from his friend. This also *is* vapor
and pursuit of wind.

5 The fool is folding his hands
and is eating his flesh.
6 Better *is* a fullness of a palm *with* quiet
than a fullness of *two* handfuls *with* toil
and pursuit of wind.

7 And I turned, I, and I saw a vapor under the sun: 8 There
is one *person* and there is not a second *person*—even a son or
brother, there is not for him—and there is no end to all his
toil. Also, his eye is not satisfied *with* wealth. So why *am* I
toiling and causing my soul to lack from good things? Even
this *is* vapor, and it *is* an unpleasant business.

9 Better *are* the two *people* than the one *person*,
that there is for them a good wage in
exchange for their toil.
10 For if they fall,
the one *person* will lift up his companion,
but woe *is* his—the one *person* that will fall,
but there is no second *person* to lift him up.
11 Also, if two *people* lie down, then there is
warmth for them.
But for *the* one *person*—how will there be warmth?
12 And if he will overpower him, the one *person*,
the two *people* will stand against him,
and the three-fold rope will not be torn
in two quickly.

13 Better *is* a child, poor but wise, than a king, old but
foolish, who does not know *how* to be warned any longer.
14 For from the house of those who are bound, he came forth
to become king, yet even in his kingdom he was born poor.
15 I saw all the living, the ones walking around under the sun,
with the second child who will stand under him. 16 There
was no end to all the people, to all who were to their faces.
Even the latter *people* will not rejoice in him, because even
this *is* vapor and pursuit of wind.

5 Keep your feet when you go to the house of God.
And drawing near to listen *is better* than fools giving a
sacrifice, for they are not knowing *that they* do evil. 2 Do not
be hurried concerning your mouth, and do not let your heart
hurry to bring forth a word to the face of God. For the God
is in heaven, but you *are* on the earth; therefore, let your
words be few.

3 For the dream comes with much business,
and the voice of a fool with many words.

4 When you vow a vow to God, do not delay fulfilling it,
for there is no delight in the fools. That which you vow,

fulfill. 5 *It is* better that you do not vow than that you vow
but do not fulfill. 6 Do not give your mouth to cause your
flesh to sin, and do not say to the face of the messenger
that it *was* an unintentional sin. Why should God be angry
concerning your voice and destroy the deed of your hands?

7 For in many dreams and vaporous things
and many words—
just fear God.

8 If *the* extortion of *the* poor and *the* robbery of justice and
equity you see in the province, do not be amazed concerning
the matter, for a high one over a high one is watching, and
high ones *are* over them. 9 And a profit of a land—it *is taken*
by all. *But* a king is served by a field.

10 A lover of silver will not be satisfied *with* silver,
and whoever loves increase, not income.
Also this *is* vapor.
11 When the good *thing* increases,
the *ones* eating it increase.
And what advantage *belongs* to its master
except the sight of his eyes?
12 Sweet is the sleep of the worker,
however little or however much he eats,
but the satisfaction of a rich person—
it is not allowing him to sleep.

13 There is a sickening misfortune I have seen under the
sun: Wealth kept by its master to his harm. 14 And that wealth
perished in an unfortunate business. And he had fathered a
son, but there was not in his hand anything. 15 As he went
out from the womb of his mother, naked he will go again,
just as he came. And he will not take anything in exchange
for his toil that he will take in his hand.
16 And also this *is* a sickening misfortune: Just as he came,
thus he will go. And what profit *belongs* to him who toils for
the wind? 17 Also, all his days in darkness he eats, and *in*
great vexation and his sickness and anger.
18 Behold what I, I, have seen *is* good: That *it is* beautiful
to eat and to drink and to see good in all his toil that he
will toil under the sun *during* the number of the days of
his life that the God has given to him, for it *is* his portion.
19 Also, each person who the God gives to him wealth and
possessions and has empowered him to eat from it and to
accept his portion and to rejoice in his toiling—this, it *is* a
gift of God. 20 For not much does he remember the days of
his life, because the God occupies *him* with the joys of his
heart.

6 There is a misfortune that I have seen under the sun and
it *is* great on humanity: 2 A person who the God gives to
him wealth and possessions and honor, so he is not lacking
for his soul from anything that he desires, but the God does
not enable him to eat from it; instead, a nonnative person
will eat it—this *is* vapor, and it *is* a sickening misfortune.
3 If a man should father a hundred *children*, and many years
should he live—and many that the days of his years may
be—but *if* his soul is not satisfied from the good *thing* (and
also a burial place is not for him), I say, "Better than him
is the stillborn child." 4 For in vapor, it came, and in the
darkness, it will go, and in the darkness its name will be
covered. 5 Even *the* sun it did not see, nor did it know. *More*
rest *belongs* to this one than this one. 6 And if he lived a
thousand years twice, but a good *thing* he did not see—are
not both going to one place?

7 All the toil of humanity *is* for his mouth,
and yet the soul is not filled.

8 For what advantage *belongs* to the wise more than the
fool? What *advantage belongs* to the poor person who knows
how to walk before the living?

9 Better *is* a sight of *the* eyes
than the walking of *the* soul.
Also this *is* vapor and pursuit of wind.

10 Whatever that is, already its name has been called, and
it is known what a person *is*—and he is not able to contend
with he who is more powerful than him. 11 When there are
many words *that* are increasingly vaporous, what advantage
belongs to humanity? 12 For who is knowing what *is* good
for humanity in life *during* the number of the days of his
vaporous life? And he makes them like the shadow. For who
will declare to humanity what will be after him under the
sun?

7 Better is a *good* name than good oil,
and the day of death than the day of his being born.
2 Better to go to a house of mourning
than to go to a house of a banquet,
because it *is* the end of all humanity
and the living will give *it* to his heart.
3 Better grief than laughter,
for with a bad face a heart may be well.
4 *The* heart of wise people *is* in a house of mourning,
but *the* heart of fools *is* in a house of joy.
5 Better to listen to a rebuke of *a* wise *person*
than a person listening to a song of fools,
6 for like the sound of the thorns under the cooking pot,
so *is* the laughter of the fool.
And this also *is* vapor.

7 Surely oppression crazes *a* wise *person*,
and a bribe destroys a heart.

8 Better *is the* end of a thing than its beginning.
Better *is* length of spirit than height of spirit.
9 Do not hasten in your spirit to become angry,
for anger rests in *the* lap of fools.

10 Do not say, "What was, that the former days
were better than these?"
For you do not ask about this out of wisdom.

11 Wisdom is good with an inheritance
and an advantage to those who see the sun.
12 For *as* in the shadow of wisdom, *so* in the
shadow of silver.
And *this is* an advantage of knowledge: Wisdom
preserves her owners.

13 See the work of the God: For who is able to straighten
that which he has bent?

14 In a day of good, be in good,
but in a day of misfortune, see—

indeed, the God has done this as well as this,
so that humanity cannot find anything after him.

15 I have seen both in the days of my vapor:

There is *a* righteous *person* perishing in
his righteousness,
and there is *a* wicked *person* lengthening in his evil.
16 Do not be overly righteous,
and do not be exceedingly wise—
why should you be shocked?
17 Do not be very wicked,
and do not be a fool—
why should you die when *it is* not your time?
18 *It is* good that you should take hold of this,
and also from this, do not let your hand rest.
For the *one who* fears God will go forth
with both of them.

19 Wisdom is strong for the wise, more than ten rulers who are in the city. 20 For a person—there is not a righteous *person* on the earth who does good and does not sin.
21 Also, to all of the words that they say, do not give your heart, so that you will not hear your servant belittling you. 22 For even many times—your heart knows that even you have belittled others.
23 All of this I tested with wisdom. I said, "Let me be wise," but it *was* far from me. 24 Far away *is* that which was. And deep, deep—who can find it? 25 I turned, I, and my heart, to know and to explore and *to* seek wisdom and the scheme of things, and to know *the* wickedness *that is* folly and the foolishness *that is* madness. 26 And I am finding more bitter than death:

the woman who, she *is* snares—
and nets, her heart;
chains, her hands.
One who is good to the face of the God will flee from her,
but a sinner will be captured by her.

27 "See, this I have found," says Qoheleth:

One to one to find the scheme of things,
28 while still my soul sought,
but I have not found:
One man from a thousand *men* I found,
but a woman among all of these *people*, I did not find.

29 Only see this I have found:

That the God made humanity upright,
but they, they have sought out many schemes.

8 Who *is* like the wise person,
and who knows *the* interpretation of a matter?
The wisdom of a person enlightens his face,
and the strength of his face is changed.

2 *As for* me—listen *to* the mouth of a king, that is, on account of the oath of God. 3 Do not be terrified from his face. Go! Do not stand in a bad matter, for everything that he pleases, he will do, 4 for *the* word of a king *is* authoritative. And who will say to him, "What are you doing?"

5 One who listens *to* a command will not
know a bad matter,
and *the* heart of a wise *person* will know *the*
time and procedure,
6 because for every matter there is a time and procedure,
because the misfortune of humanity *is*
severe upon him,
7 for he is not knowing whatever that will be,
for when it will be—
who will declare *it* to him?
8 There is no person authorized over the wind
to restrain the wind,
and there is no authority over the day of death,
and there is no discharge in the war,
and wickedness will not deliver its masters.

9 All this I saw *while* giving my heart to every deed that was done under the sun: A time that the person has authority over *another* person to his harm.
10 And then I saw wicked people buried, and they entered, and from a place of holiness they went. And they were praised in the city where thus they had done. This also *is* vapor:

11 that a decree *against* the evil deed is not made quickly—
therefore, the heart of the sons of humanity
fills in them to do evil;
12 that a sinner is doing evil a hundred times and
lengthening *days* for himself—
yet also I know that it will be good for
those who fear God,
who fear from before his face.
13 But it will not be good for the wicked,
nor will he lengthen *his* days like the shadow,
because he is not fearing before the face of God.

14 There is vapor that is done on the earth:

that there are righteous people
who *it* befalls to them like the deeds of
the wicked people,
and there are wicked people
who *it* befalls to them like the deeds of
the righteous people.
I say that also this *is* vapor.

15 And I praised, I, joy—that there is nothing good for humanity under the sun except to eat and to drink and to rejoice. And it will accompany him in his toil *during* the days of his life that the God has given to him under the sun.
16 When I gave my heart to know wisdom and to see the business that is done on the earth—for even in the day and in the night sleep in his eyes he is not seeing— 17 then I saw every deed of the God: that humanity is not able to find the deed that is done under the sun, on account of which humanity toils to seek, yet he will not find, and even if the wise *one* says to know, he is not able to find.

9 Indeed, all of this I gave to my heart to examine all of this: That the righteous and the wise and their work *are* in the hand of God. Either love or hate, humanity is not knowing; both *are* to their faces. 2 Everything *is* as for everyone, one happening:

for the righteous person and for the wicked person,

for the good person and for the pure person
and for the unclean person,
and for the person who sacrifices and for the
person who does not sacrifice.
As the good person, so the sinner,
the person who swears *an oath is* as the
person who fears an oath.

3 This *is* a misfortune about everything that is done under
the sun: That one happening *belongs* to everyone. And also,
the heart of the sons of humanity *is* full of evil, and madness
is in their heart during their lives—and after him to the dead!

4 For whoever that is joined to all the living,
there is hope;
for a living dog—
it *is* better than the dead lion,
5 for the living know that they will die,
but the dead—they are not knowing anything,
and there is no longer for them a reward—
even their memory is forgotten!
6 Even their love, even their hate,
even their jealousy—already it has perished.
And there is not for them a portion any
longer in perpetuity
among all that is done under the sun.

7 Go! Eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with
a good heart, because the God has already accepted your
deeds. 8 At every time let your clothes be white, and do not
let oil be lacking on your head. 9 See life with *the* wife whom
you love all the days of your vaporous life which he has
given to you under the sun—all the days of your vapor. For
it *is* your portion in life and in your toil that you *are* a toiler
under the sun. 10 Everything that your hand finds to do, do
it with your strength, because there is no deed or scheme
of things or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol where you are
going to there.
11 I again saw under the sun:

That not to the swift *is* the race,
and not to the mighty *is* the war,
and even not to wise *people is* bread,
and even not to discerning *people is* wealth,
and even not to understanding *people is* favor,
for a time and the occurrence will happen to all of them.

12 For humanity does not even know his time.

Like the fish that are caught in a troublesome net,
and like the birds that are caught in the snare—
like them, the sons of humanity are snared
at a time of misfortune
when it falls upon them suddenly.

13 Also, this I saw: Wisdom under the sun and great it
was to me. 14 *There was* a small city, and a few men *were*
in it. And against it came a great king, and he surrounded
it, and he built against it great siegeworks. 15 And he found
in it a poor wise man, and he himself delivered the city
with his wisdom. But a person did not remember that poor
man. 16 And I said, I, "Better *is* wisdom than might, but the
wisdom of the poor person *is* despised, and his words—they
are not heard."

17 *The* words of wise people in quietness are heeded
more than the cry of a ruler among the fools.
18 Better *is* wisdom than weapons of battle,
but one sinner will destroy much good.
10 Flies of death cause a perfumer's oil to
putrefy *and* bubble;
weightier than wisdom or honor *is* a little foolishness.
2 *The* heart of a wise person, to his right,
but a heart of a fool, to his left.
3 And even whenever the fool is walking on the road,
his heart *is* lacking,
and it says to everyone
that he *is* a fool.

4 If the spirit of the ruler rises against you,
do not leave your place,
for calmness will cause great sins to leave.

5 There is a misfortune I saw under the sun,
like an unintentional sin that goes out from
before the face of the authority.
6 Folly is placed into many high places,
and rich *people* sit in the lowly place.
7 Indeed, I saw slaves on horses
and princes walking like slaves on the ground.

8 One who digs a pit will fall into it,
and one who breaks through a wall—a
snake will bite him.
9 Indeed, one who pulls up stones will be hurt by them;
one who splits wood will be endangered by them.
10 If the iron is dull,
but he himself does not lighten the faces,
he must exert strength.
But a profit to succeeding *is* wisdom.
11 If the snake bites without a charm,
then there is no profit for the master of the tongue.

12 *The* words of *the* mouth of a wise *person are* favor,
but *the* lips of a fool will swallow him.
13 The beginning of the words of his mouth *is* foolishness,
and *the* end of his mouth *is* evil insanity,
14 but the fool multiplies words.
Humanity does not know what will be,
and that which will be after him—who will
declare *it* to him?

15 The toil of foolish *people* wearies him,
so that he does not know *how* to go to a city.

16 Woe to you, land, that your king *is* a youth
and your princes eat in the morning.
17 Blessed are you, land, that your king *is* a son of nobles
and *that* your princes will eat at the time with
might and not with drunkenness.
18 With laziness, the beams of the roof sink,
and in idleness of hands, the house will leak. 19 For
laughter, *people* are making bread,
and wine gladdens life,
but silver answers everything.

20 Even in your thought, do not belittle a king,
and in the room of your bed, do not
belittle a rich *person*,

for a bird of the heavens will carry the voice,
and a master of wings will declare *the* word.
11 Throw your bread on the face of the waters,
for in many days you will find it.
2 Give a portion to seven and even to eight,
for you do not know what will be a
misfortune on the earth.

3 If the clouds are filled with rain,
they will pour out on the earth.
And whether a tree will fall in the south or in the north,
the place where the tree will fall—there it will be.
4 One who attends *to the* wind will not sow,
and one who watches *the* clouds will not harvest.

5 Just as you are not knowing what *is* the way of the wind,
as the bones *come* into the womb of the full *woman*, so thus
you do not know the work of the God who does everything.

6 In the morning sow your seed,
and in the evening do not let your hand rest,
for you are not knowing whether this one
will prosper—
this one or this one—
or whether two of them as one *will be* good.

7 And light *is* sweet,
and *it is* good for the eyes to see the sun.
8 For if the man will live many years,
in all of them let him rejoice,
but let him remember the days of darkness
that they will be many.
Everything that is coming *is* vapor.

9 Rejoice young man in your youth and let your heart
make you glad in the days of your young adulthood. And
walk in the ways of your heart and in the sight of your eyes,
but know that, on account of all these things, the God will
bring you into judgment. 10 And remove anger from your
heart and take misfortune away from your flesh, for youth
and dark hair *are* vapor.

12 So, remember your Creator
in the days of your young adulthood,
when the days of misfortune have not come
and the years arrive of which you will say,
"There is not for me pleasure in them,"
2 when the sun and the light
and the moon and the stars have not darkened
and the clouds return after the rain,
3 in the day when the guards of the house will tremble
and the men of valor will be bent over
and the women grinders cease because they are few
and those who look at the window will grow dark
4 and *the* doors will be shut in the street,
when the sound of the grinding *is* low
and a person rises at the sound of the bird
and all the daughters of song are stooped;
5 also, they are afraid of a high *thing*
and terrors *are* in the way
and the almond tree blossoms
and the locust moves along
and the caper-fruit fails—
for humanity is going to his eternal home
and the mourners go around in the street—
6 before the cord of silver is removed
and the bowl of gold is broken
and the pitcher is shattered at the fountain
and the wheel is crushed at the cistern
7 and the dust returns to the earth as that it was
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

8 "Vapor of vapors!" says the Qoheleth. "Everything *is* vapor!"
9 More *than* that Qoheleth was wise, again he taught the people knowledge, and he weighed and he searched. He ordered many proverbs. 10 Qoheleth sought to find words of pleasure, and words of truth were written rightly.
11 *The* words of wise *people are* like goads, and like nails implanted *are* masters of collections. They are given by one Shepherd. 12 But more than them my son, be warned—of the making of many scrolls there is no end, and much study *is* weariness of flesh.

13 The end of the matter,
everything has been heard:
Fear God and keep his commandments,
for this is the whole of humanity.
14 For every deed the God will bring into judgment
concerning everything hidden,
whether good or whether evil.