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## THE OLD TESTAMENT

# BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES OR, THE PREACHER

### ENHANCED

Enjoy the Book of Ecclesiastes as set forth in understandable language through original King James Translation with *Enhancement* 

## Robert E. Daley



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## Introduction

The Book of Ecclesiastes is a work that is attributed to King Solomon, while he was in a spiritually backslidden condition. The work is additionally known of by many as *The Preacher*. The theme of the book is the futility of Man trying to be happy apart from having a relationship with the living God. The main focus word within the whole of the book is *vanity*.

King Solomon was the wisest, richest, most influential king that the Nation of Israel had ever had. His perspective of viewing things *under the sun* finds life in this world to be empty despite a person having power, prestige, popularity, pleasure, or any other chattel possessions.

Within each Human-Being, by a divine design, there is a *God-shaped* vacuum that is awaiting the filling-up-of, by the One and only Holy Spirit of God. Without that vacuum being correctly filled with the Spirit of God himself, attempts will be made to fill it with drugs, sex, money, influence, and many other worldly substitutes, that men pursue vigorously, and at great expense, but that ultimately render no genuine peace or satisfaction. "Vanity, vanity, all is vanity" *(Ecclesiastes 12:8)*. The enhancement that is provided within this work will hopefully not only bring clarity, but provide possibly a fresh perspective to the spiritual realities that are touched upon by King Solomon.

Our prayer is that you will enjoy the presentation, and share this small work with others.

## THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES

#### **CHAPTER 1**

1. The words of *Solomon* the Preacher, the son of David *the* king, *as he abode* in Jerusalem.

2. Vanity of vanities, saith *Solomon* the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all *is certainly* vanity.

3. What *eternal* profit hath a *sinful* man of all *of* his labor which he *hath* taketh under the sun?

4. One generation passeth away and is gone, and another generation cometh in its place. But the earth continues to abideth for evermore, without even taking notice.

5. The sun also ariseth *early*, and *then* the sun goeth down, and hasteth *back again* to his place where he *first* arose.

6. The wind goeth toward the south, and *then* turneth about *and goeth* unto the north. It whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again *and again* according to his circuits.

7. All of the rivers eventually run into the sea, yet the sea is not ever full. Unto the same place, from whence the rivers originally come, thither they return again. 8. All things on the earth are full of labor; and yet sinful man cannot utter the fullness of it. The eye of sinful man is not satisfied with the seeing, nor the ear ever filled with the hearing.

9. The thing that hath *already* been, it *is that* which shall *come to* be *again*. And that which is *already* done *is* that which shall *come to* be done *again*. And, *there is* no new *thing* under the sun.

10. Is there *any* thing whereof it may be said, See *this*, this *is* new *isn't it*? It hath been already of *an* old time, which was before us.

11. There is usually no remembrance of former things, which is why history repeats itself; neither shall there be any remembrance of things that are to come with those people that shall come after, because sinful people are still people, and sinful people will still do what sinful people continue to do.

**12**. I Solomon the Preacher was the king over the Nation of Israel, and I abode in Jerusalem.

13. And I gave my heart to seek and to search out, by using natural wisdom, concerning all of the things that are now done under the heaven. This sore travail of searching hath God given unto the sons of sinful man to be exercised therewith.

14. I have seen all of the works of sinful man that are done under the sun. And, behold, all of it is a vanity and a vexation of the spirit.

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15. *That which is* crooked cannot *easily* be made straight. And that which is *sore* wanting cannot be *accurately* numbered.

16. I communed with mine own heart, saying, Lo, I am come to *the place of having a* great estate, and have gotten more *natural* wisdom *from God* than all *they* that have been *on the throne* before me in Jerusalem. Yea, my heart had great experience of *both natural* wisdom and *increased* knowledge.

17. And I gave my heart to know *natural* wisdom, and to know *about both* madness and folly. *And* I perceived that this also is *a* vexation of *the* spirit.

18. For in much *natural* wisdom *there is also* much grief. And he that increaseth *in* knowledge, increaseth *also in* sorrow.

#### **CHAPTER 2**

1. I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee *O* heart with mirth, therefore enjoy thy pleasure. And, behold, this also *is* proven to be vanity.

2. I said of laughter, *It is* mad. And of mirth, What doeth it, *and what good is it*?

3. I sought in mine heart to give myself unto excess of wine, while yet acquainting mine heart with natural wisdom at the same time. And to lay hold on

folly, *un*til I might see what *it was* that *was* going to be good for the sons of men, which they should *put their hand forth to* do under the heaven, all of the days of their life.

4. I made me great works. I builded me *multiple* houses. I planted me *extensive* vineyards.

5. I made me *fabulous* gardens and *plenteous* orchards, and I planted *various* trees in them, of all *kind of* fruits.

6. I made me pools of water, to water therewith the wooded area, that bringeth forth *the various kinds of* trees.

7. I got *me multiple* servants and maidens, and had *many* servants born in my *own* house. Also, I had great possessions of great and small cattle above all that were in Jerusalem before me.

8. I gathered me *together* also silver and gold, and the peculiar treasure of kings, and *the wealth* of the provinces. I gat me *numerous* men singers, and *numerous* women singers, and *such as were* the delights of the sons of men, *like as of* musical instruments, and that of all *different* sorts.

9. So I was *truly* great, and increased more than all that were *kings* before me in Jerusalem; also, my *natural* wisdom *still* remained with me.

10. And whatsoever mine eyes desired *to see*, I kept not from them.I withheld not my heart from

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any joy *that it desired*. For my heart rejoiced in all *of* my labor. And this *delight* was my *allotted* portion of all *of* my labor.

11. Then I looked *up*on all *of* the works that my hands had wrought, and on *all of* the labour that I had laboured to do. And, behold, all *of it was* vanity and vexation of *the* spirit, and *there was* no *spiritual* profit *in it* under the sun.

12. And I turned myself to behold my own natural wisdom, and it was madness, and folly. For what can even the common man, or the new king do, that cometh after the current king? Even only that, which hath been already done before.

13. Then I saw that *natural* wisdom *without spiritual influence*, excelleth *in* folly, as far as *the* light excelleth *against the* darkness.

14. The wise *sinful* man's eyes *are* in his head, but the fool walketh in *abject* darkness. And I myself perceived also, that one event happeneth *equally* to them all.

15. Then said I in my heart, As it happeneth to 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 *man* more than of the fool*ish man* for ever. Seeing *that* that which now *is,* in the days to come, shall

all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise *man* any *differently, than* as the fool?

17. Therefore I hated *this* life. Because *all of* the work that is wrought under the sun, *is* grievous unto me. For all *of it is* vanity and vexation of *the* spirit.

18. Yea, I hated all *of* my labour which I had taken under the sun. Because I should leave it *in the end*, *even* unto the man that shall be after me.

19. And who *is to* knoweth whether *or not* he shall be a wise *man* or a fool? Yet, *either way*, shall he have rule over all *of* my labour wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have shewed myself *to be* wise under the sun. This also is *a* vanity.

20. Therefore I went about to cause my heart to despair of all *of* the labour which I took *to do* under the sun.

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

22. For *in the end*, what hath *that sinful* man of all *of* his labour, and of the vexation of his heart, wherein he hath laboured *his whole life* under the sun?

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