

Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

Literal English Translation
Trilinear Text

Ecclesiastes 1:1-18
Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2
The Prologue

1) *The words of the Preacher,*
the son of David,
king in Jerusalem:

2) Vanity of vanities, has said *the Preacher,*
vanity of vanities!
All is vanity!

Ecclesiastes 1:3-6:12
The Personal Experiences of Solomon

Ecclesiastes 1:3-7
The Observations of Life: A Poem on the Cycles of Life

3) What profit *is* for the person
in all of his work which he labors
under the sun?

Ecclesiastes 1:4
The Cycle of Human Life

4) A generation *is* leaving,
and *a* generation *is* coming;
and the earth *s* forever standing.

Ecclesiastes 1:5
The Cycle of the Sun

5) And the sun has risen,
and the sun has gone
even to its place panting;
it *is* rising there *again*.

Ecclesiastes 1:6
The Cycle of the Wind

6) The wind *is* going toward *the* south,
and *is* turning around toward *the* north;
the wind *is* going around *and* around;
and upon its circuits the wind *is* returning.

Ecclesiastes 1:1-18

Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 1:7
The Cycle of Water

**7) All of the streams *are* going toward the sea;
and the sea *is* not full.
Toward *the* place of which the streams *are* going,
there they *are* returning to go *again*.**

Ecclesiastes 1:8-11
The Conclusions

**8) All of the things *are* tiresome;
a man is not able to describe it.
The eye *is* not satisfied to see,
and *the* ear is not full from hearing.**

**9) Whatever has been,
it is what will be.
And whatever has been done,
it is what will be done.
And there is not anything new
under the sun.**

**10) There *is* something *of* which
someone will say,
See this, *it is* new!
It has already been for ages
which have been before us.**

**11) *There is* no remembrance
regarding the former *things*;
and also regarding the latter *things*
which will be;
and there will not be *a* remembrance
with those people who will be later.**

Ecclesiastes 1:12-18
The Reflections of Solomon

Ecclesiastes 1:12
The Identification of Solomon

**12) I, *the* Preacher, have been king
over Israel in Jerusalem.**

Ecclesiastes 1:1-18

Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 1:13-15 The First Reflection

Ecclesiastes 1:13-14 The Pursuit of Wisdom

13) And I have given my heart to seek out and to investigate in wisdom concerning all of which has been done under the heavens. That is *an* occupation of evil God has given to the sons of man, to be occupied in it.

14) I have observed all the works that have been done under the sun; and, behold, the whole *thing is* vanity and chasing of wind!

Ecclesiastes 1:15 The Proverb

15) *Something* being crooked is not able to become straight, and *what is* lacking is not able to be counted.

Ecclesiastes 1:16-18 The Second Reflection

Ecclesiastes 1:16-17 The Pursuit of Wisdom

16) I have spoken, I with my heart, saying, I Behold, I have made great and have increased wisdom above all of whom has been before me over Jerusalem. And, my heart has seen exceedingly wisdom and knowledge.

17) And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness, and foolishness. I have known that also this, it *is* chasing of wind.

Ecclesiastes 1:18 The Proverb

18) Because in abundance of wisdom *is* abundance of frustration; and he who increases knowledge increases anguish.

Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

Trilinear Text

12) I, the Preacher, have been king over Israel

יב. יִשְׁרָאֵל-עַל מְלִךְ הָיִיתִי קִהַלְתִּי אֲנִי יב.
'Egw̄ 'Ekklesiastēs ēgenómēn basilēus ep̄i Israēl

in Jerusalem.

בִּירוּשָׁלַם:
έν Ιερουσαλημ·

13) And I have given my heart to seek out

יג. לְדַרוֹשׁ לְבִי-אֶת וְנַתַּתִּי יג.
καὶ ἔδωκα τὴν καρδίαν μου τοῦ ἐκζητῆσαι

and to investigate in wisdom concerning all of which

אֶשְׁר-כָּל-עַל בְּחִכְמָה וְלִתְרוּר
καὶ τοῦ κατασκέψασθαι ἐν τῇ σοφίᾳ περὶ πάντων τῶν

has been done under the heavens. That is an occupation of evil

נַעֲשֶׂה תַחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם הוּא עֲנִין רַע
γυνομένων ὑπὸ τὸν οὐρανόν· ὅτι περισπασμὸν πονηρόν

God has given to *the* sons of man,

הָאָדָם לְבָנֵי אֱלֹהִים נָתַן
ἔδωκεν ὁ θεὸς τοῖς υἱοῖς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου

to be occupied in it.

לְעִנּוֹת בּוֹ:
τοῦ περισπᾶσθαι ἐν αὐτῷ.

14) I have observed all the works that have been done

יד. וְנִעְשׂוּ הַמַּעֲשִׂים-כָּל-אֶת רָאִיתִי יד.
εἶδον σὺν πάντα τὰ ποιήματα τὰ πεποιημένα

under the sun; and behold, the whole *thing* is vanity

תַּחַת הַשָּׁמַשׁ וְהִנֵּה הַכֹּל הֶבֶל
ὑπὸ τὸν ἥλιον, καὶ ἰδὸν τὰ πάντα ματαιότης

and chasing of wind!

וְרָעוֹת רִוּחַ:
καὶ προαίρεισις πνεύματος.

Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

Trilinear Text

18) Because in abundance of wisdom

כִּי בְרַב הַחָכְמָה
ὅτι ἐν πλήθει σοφίας

is an abundance of frustration;

כְּסַעַב-רַב
πλήθος γνώσεως,

and he who increases knowledge

הַיֹּסֵיף תַּעֲד
καὶ ὁ προστιθείς γνώσιν

increases anguish.

הַיֹּסֵיף בְּאִזְמָה:
προσθήσει ἄλγημα.