### Ecclesiastes

## Chapter 6

1‘There’s something bad that I’ve seen,  
 Which is common to all under the sun.  
 2It’s when God gives a man wealth,  
 Along with possessions, and glory,  
 So that he lacks nothing his soul could desire…  
 Then he’s not allowed the time to [enjoy] it,  
 And thereafter, it’s given to strangers…  
 Yes, this is a sickness and folly.  
  
 3‘If a man should live to 100  
 (No matter how long the days of his years),  
 And his life has never known good things;  
 Before he’s buried, I’d say:  
  
 ‘It would have been better if he’d been miscarried.’  
  
 4For, from darkness he came and in darkness he left,  
 And in darkness his name will be covered.  
  
 5‘Indeed, he knew not the sun,  
 And none would know him from others.  
 6And if he came back and lived thousands [of years],  
 But he still never saw any good;  
 Wouldn’t things still be the same?  
  
 7‘So, all men can do is just fill their mouths,  
 Since their lives never reach their fulfillment.  
 8And what advantage have the wise over fools?  
 For, only the poor put just living first.  
  
 9‘It’s better to have a dream in your eyes  
 Than to see what will really happen in life;  
 So, all of that’s just folly…  
 It’s just a waste of good breath.  
  
 10‘Whenever something new comes along,  
 It was already named [in the past].  
 And although a man may know his own [strength],  
 He can’t know when someone is stronger.  
  
 11‘There’s so much that makes foolishness grow,  
 12And what does this mean for a man?  
 Who knows what will be the best parts in his life,  
 Or how many of his days will be foolish?  
 For, his life is much like a shadow,  
 And who can report to a man  
 What under the sun will succeed him?’