

**10** Who shall find a valiant woman? far, and from the uttermost coasts is the price of her.

**11** The heart of her husband trusteth in her, and he shall have no need of spoils.

**12** She will render him good, and not evil all the days of her life.

**13** She hath sought wool and flax, and hath wrought by the counsel of her hands.

**14** She is like the merchant's ship, she bringeth her bread from afar.

**15** And she hath risen in the night, and given a prey to her household, and victuals to her maidens.

**16** She hath considered a field, and bought it: with the fruit of her hands she hath planted a vineyard.

**17** She hath girded her loins with strength, and hath strengthened her arm.

**18** She hath tasted, and seen that her traffic is good: her lamp shall not be put out in the night.

**19** She hath put out her hand to strong things, and her fingers have taken hold of the spindle.

**20** She hath opened her hand to the needy, and stretched out her hands to the poor.

**21** She shall not fear for her house in the cold of snow: for all her domestics are clothed with double garments.

**22** She hath made for herself clothing of tapestry: fine linen, and purple, is her covering.

**23** Her husband is honourable in the gates, when he sitteth among the senators of the land.

**24** She made fine linen, and sold it, and delivered a girdle to the Chanaanite.

**25** Strength and beauty are her clothing, and she shall laugh in the latter day.

**26** She hath opened her mouth to wisdom, and the law of clemency is on her tongue.

**27** She hath looked well on the paths of her house, and hath not eaten her bread idle.

**28** Her children rose up, and called her blessed: her husband, and he praised her.

**29** Many daughters have gathered together riches: thou hast surpassed them all.

**30** Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: the woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

**31** Give her of the fruit of her hands: and let her works praise her in the gates.

# Ecclesiastes

## Chapter 1

The words of Ecclesiastes, the son of David, king of Jerusalem.

**2** Vanity of vanities, said Ecclesiastes: vanity of vanities, and all is vanity.

**3** What hath a man more of all his labour, that he taketh under the sun?

**4** One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth standeth for ever.

**5** The sun riseth, and goeth down, and returneth to his place: and there rising again,

**6** Maketh his round by the south, and turneth again to the north: the spirit goeth forward surveying all places round about, and returneth to his circuits.

**7** All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea doth not overflow: unto the place from whence the rivers come, they return, to flow again.

**8** All things are hard: man cannot explain them by word. The eye is not filled with seeing, neither is the ear filled with hearing.

**9** What is it that hath been? the same thing that shall be. What is it that hath been done? the same that shall be done.

**10** Nothing under the sun is new, neither is any man able to say: Behold this is new: for it hath already gone before in the ages that were before us.

**11** There is no remembrance of former things: nor indeed of those things which hereafter are

to come, shall there be any remembrance with them that shall be in the latter end.

**12** I Ecclesiastes was king over Israel in Jerusalem,

**13** And I proposed in my mind to seek and search out wisely concerning all things that are done under the sun. This painful occupation hath God given to the children of men, to be exercised therein.

**14** I have seen all things that are done under the sun, and behold all is vanity, and vexation of spirit.

**15** The perverse are hard to be corrected, and the number of fools is infinite.

**16** I have spoken in my heart, saying: Behold I am become great, and have gone beyond all in wisdom, that were before me in Jerusalem: and my mind hath contemplated many things wisely, and I have learned.

**17** And I have given my heart to know prudence, and learning, and errors, and folly: and I have perceived that in these also there was labour, and vexation of spirit,

**18** Because in much wisdom there is much indignation: and he that addeth knowledge, addeth also labour.

## Chapter 2

I said in my heart: I will go, and abound with delights, and enjoy good things. And I saw that

this also was vanity.

**2** Laughter I counted error: and to mirth I said: Why art thou vainly deceived?

**3** I thought in my heart, to withdraw my flesh from wine, that I might turn my mind to wisdom, and might avoid folly, till I might see what was profitable for the children of men: and what they ought to do under the sun, all the days of their life.

**4** I made me great works, I built me houses, and planted vineyards,

**5** I made gardens, and orchards, and set them with trees of all kinds,

**6** And I made me ponds of water, to water therewith the wood of the young trees,

**7** I got me menservants, and maidservants, and had a great family: and herds of oxen, and great flocks of sheep, above all that were before me in Jerusalem:

**8** I heaped together for myself silver and gold, and the wealth of kings, and provinces: I made me singing men, and singing women, and the delights of the sons of men, cups and vessels to serve to pour out wine:

**9** And I surpassed in riches all that were before me in Jerusalem: my wisdom also remained with me.

**10** And whatsoever my eyes desired, I refused them not: and I withheld not my heart from enjoying every pleasure, and delighting itself in the things which I had prepared: and esteemed this my portion, to make use of my own labour.

**11** And when I turned myself to all the works which my hands had wrought, and to the labours wherein I had laboured in vain, I saw in all things vanity, and vexation of mind, and that nothing was lasting under the sun.

**12** I passed further to behold wisdom, and errors and folly, (What is man, said I that he can follow the King his maker?)

**13** And I saw that wisdom excelled folly, as much as light differeth from darkness.

**14** The eyes of a wise man are in his head: the fool walketh in darkness: and I learned that they were to die both alike.

**15** And I said in my heart: If the death of the fool and mine shall be one, what doth it avail me, that I have applied myself more to the study of wisdom? And speaking with my own mind, I perceived that this also was vanity.

**16** For there shall be no remembrance of the wise no more than of the fool forever, and the times to come shall cover all things together with oblivion: the learned dieth in like manner as the unlearned.

**17** And therefore I was weary of my life, when I saw that all things under the sun are evil, and all vanity and vexation of spirit.

**18** Again I hated all my application wherewith I had earnestly laboured under the sun, being like to have an heir after me,

**19** Whom I know not whether he will be a wise man or a fool, and he shall have rule over all my labours with which I have laboured and been solicitous: and is there anything so vain?

**20** Wherefore I left off and my heart renounced labouring anymore under the sun.

**21** For when a man laboreth in wisdom, and knowledge, and carefulness, he leaveth what he hath gotten to an idle man: so this also is vanity, and a great evil.

**22** For what profit shall a man have of all his labour, and vexation of spirit, with which he hath been tormented under the sun?

**23** All his days are full of sorrows and miseries, even in the night he doth not rest in mind: and is not this vanity?

**24** Is it not better to eat and drink, and to shew his soul good things of his labours? and this is from the hand of God.