

UNDER THE SUN or UNDER THE SON?

Book of Ecclesiasties

Book of Ecclesiasties.

- Key word: **vanity**. 39 times in 12 chapters.
Hebel: emptiness or vanity; figuratively, something transitory, fleeting, passing, brief, temporary, momentary and unsatisfactory.
Webster adds “valueless”.
- Key phrase: **under the sun**. 29 times in 12 chapters.
Living in the world without Heaven consciousness.
- Key lesson: **Ecclesiasties 12:13-14 13** Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.
¹⁴ For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

A. Proprietorship (A person who has the legal right or exclusive title to something.)

Ecclesiastes 2:18-19 Yea, I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me. ¹⁹ And who knoweth whether he shall be a wise man or a fool? yet shall he have rule over all my labour wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have shewed myself wise under the sun.

This is also vanity.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; ³⁰ And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; ³¹ And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

B. Prosperity (Economic well-being.)

Ecclesiastes 5:10 He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: **this is also vanity.**

1Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

C. Principles (A comprehensive and fundamental law.)

Ecclesiastes 5:15 As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand.

1Timothy 6:6-8 But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. ⁸ And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

Proverbs 17:24 Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth.

D. Priorities (Something that is more important than other things and needs to be done or dealt with first.)

Ecclesiastes 9:4-5, 10 For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion. ⁵ For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.....¹⁰ Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

Romans 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

James 4:13-14 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:¹⁴ Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

E. Problems (Something that is difficult to deal with: something that is a source of trouble, worry,)

Ecclesiastes 11:4 He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2 Corinthians 8:10-12 And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. ¹¹ Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have. ¹² For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

Lay up treasures for yourself in Heaven or leave them for someone else.

Lay up treasures for yourself in Heaven; you'll never have enough wealth here.

Lay up treasures for yourself in Heaven; you'll take nothing with you.

Lay up treasures for yourself in Heaven now; you'll not have the opportunity after death.

Lay up treasures for yourself in Heaven now; there are always problems to hinder giving.