

ECCLESIASTES

Book note for Ecclesiastes

No book note, yet.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 1

1 The preacher sheweth that all human courses are vain: 4 because the creatures are restless in their courses, 9 they bring forth nothing new, and all old things are forgotten, 12 and because he hath found it so in the studies of wisdom.

Eccl 1:1

There are those who claim that Ecclesiastes was written by Solomon during the height of his apostasy and that it is therefore not divinely inspired. Ecclesiastes 10:12 belies this as the Editor there attests to the truth of the book. Verse 12 says that the Solomon, the Preacher, *was* king over Israel in Jerusalem, which means that Solomon was towards the end of his life. Apparently he repented from the sins his wives led him to.

Eccl 1:2

Vanity = vain, futile, worthless, of no profit, foolish, holding erroneous opinions, self-conceit, emptiness, void: *unavailing*.

Eccl 1:4

Psa. 119:90.

Eccl 1:5

Ties solar motion to resurrection.

Eccl 1:7

It is naive to insist that the Hebrews were no smarter than Albertus Magnus and Thomas Aquinas who thought that the rivers flowed uphill from the sea to flow downhill again. The Hebrews knew that rain fills gulleys and rivers. The hydrologic cycle does no violence to either the Hebrew or the English of this verse. After all, once the waters return as rain or snow, they again flow down the same river.

Eccl 1:12

Solomon is no longer king.

Eccl 1:13

Solomon had wisdom given him from God, so he doesn't search *for* it but searches out *by* it.

Eccl 1:15

Contra the faith in numbers of mathematics.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 2

1 The vanity of human courses in the works of pleasure. 12 Though the wise be better than the fool, yet both have one event. 18 The vanity of human labour, in leaving it they know not to whom. 24 Nothing better than joy in our labour; but that is God's gift.

Ecccl 2:3

12:13.

Ecccl 2:8

Re. peculiar, c.f. note to Ex. 19:5.

Ecccl 2:20

Modern man and the age of despair.

Ecccl 2:24

8:15.

Ecccl 2:26

Pr. 13:22.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 3

1 By the necessary change of times, vanity is added to human travail. 11 There is an excellency in God's works: 16 but as for man, God shall judge his works there, and here he shall be like a beast.

Ecc 3:1

28 things listed.

Ecc 3:11

Job 13:9; Ecc. 8:17.

Ecc 3:14

This includes the Bible.

Ecc 3:15

Apparently God does not require the present. Not deterministic? 1:9.

Ecc 3:20

Job 4:19-20; Gen. 2:19.

Ecc 3:21

1 Cor. 6:20. Beasts have spirits. Living things also have souls, cf. Num. 16:22 and Job 12:10.

The spirit of man reveals man's motives: Prov. 20:27 and is formed by God, Zec. 12:1. It goes back to God (Eccl. 12:7).

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 4

1 Vanity is increased unto men by oppression, 4 by envy, 5 by idleness, 7 by covetousness, 9 by solitariness, 13 by wilfulness.

Eccl 4:1

The first three verses suggest that one is better off dead than in slavery.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 5

1 Vanities in divine service, 8 in murmuring against oppression, 9 and in riches. 18 Joy in riches is the gift of God.

Ecc 5:3

Relates dreams to preoccupation.

Ecc 5:9

Contrary to the environmentalists who believe no one should profit from the earth.

Ecc 5:15

Naked...: Gen. 2:25; Job 1:21; 1 Tim. 6:7.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 6

1 The vanity of riches without use. 3 Of children, 6 and old age without riches. 9 The vanity of sight and wandering desires. 11 The conclusion of vanities.

Ecc1 6:6

All go to judgment.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 7

1 Remedies against vanity are, a good name, 2 mortification, 7 patience, 11 wisdom. 23 The difficulty of wisdom.

Ecccl 7:1

Psa. 116:15. Phil. 1:23; Rev. 14:13.

Ecccl 7:3

2 Cor. 7:10.

Ecccl 7:7

According to the second law of thermodynamics, oppression leads to degeneracy. For most people, this manifests as debauchery, but for the saints it leads to madness. Tu wit the actions of the prophets when warning Israel.

Ecccl 7:8

V. 16.

Ecccl 7:10

“Good old days.”

Ecccl 7:12

Pr. 3:18.

Ecccl 7:20

Note, he’s still a just man.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 8

1 Kings are greatly to be respected. 6 The divine providence is to be observed. 12 It is better with the godly in adversity, than with the wicked in prosperity. 16 The work of God is unsearchable.

Ecc 8:4

NIV & NKJV both get rid of the king's power here. The result is to discredit the King James Bible.

Ecc 8:17

Ecc. 3:11; Deu. 29:29. E.g., an observer changes what was happening (observed). Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 9

1 Like things happen to good and bad. 4 There is a necessity of death unto men. 7 Comfort is all their portion in this life. 11 God's providence ruleth over all. 13 Wisdom is better than strength.

Ecc 9:3

Hence there is no hope for the dead. Contra purgatory.

Ecc 9:4

For more on dogs, see Rev. 22:15.

Ecc 9:5

The context of this verse is "under the sun," v. 6, and so refers to the knowledge of and about the world, not the afterlife.

Ecc 9:6

Contra reincarnation.

Ecc 9:11

Chance is Scriptural, at least for those who trust in worldly things. Lu. 13:1-5.

Ecc 9:14

Of gospel workers.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 10

1 Observations of wisdom and folly. 16 Of riot, 18 slothfulness, 19 and money. 20 Men's thoughts of kings ought to be reverent.

Ecc 10:2

A political statement.

Ecc 10:3

That is, a fool's comport bewrayeth him (cf. note to Pro. 27:16).

Ecc 10:19

Money may answer all things, but not necessarily with the correct answer.

Ecc 10:20

Birds are related to devils: cf., e.g., parable of the sower and the seed (Mat. 13:4, 19; Mk. 4:4; Lu. 8:5). Devils and unclean spirits are like birds. The Holy Ghost is connected to a dove, which is a clean bird.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 11

1 Directions for charity. 7 Death in life, 9 and the day of judgment in the days of youth, are to be thought on.

Chapter note for Ecclesiastes 12

1 The Creator is to be remembered in due time. 8 The preacher's care to edify. 13 The fear of God is the chief antidote of vanity.

Ecccl 12:1

This chapter describes both the last days of a man and the last days of mankind.

Ecccl 12:2

Prophetic: Joel 2:31; Ac. 2:20; Rev. 6:12.

Ecccl 12:4

-- **MUSIC**

Correct KJV spelling is musick. Only the U.S. spells the word music.

Ecccl 12:5

Num. 17:8; Jer. 1:11 v.f.; Isa. 4:2; indirectly, Rev. 9:3.

Ecccl 12:6

Job 30:11; Ecccl. 4:12; Zec. 9:15; 14:20.

Isa. 36:16.

Job 23:10 says "When he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." The scholars take the "golden bowl" as a picture of the skull, but the golden bowls are atop the golden candlestick, a type of the Holy Ghost, which operates through oil, a type of prayer. So a king is to wear a golden crown (Ps 21:3; Rev 4:4) and be anointed on the top of his head with oil. Golgotha was the "place of the skull."

Ecccl 12:7

Job 34:15. The body goes to the earth, the spirit to God, and the soul to paradise or hell (Ac. 2:27). In the Old Testament, hell has paradise (Abraham's bosom) in it.

Ecccl 12:10

I.e., Ecclesiastes is inspired.

Ecccl 12:11

Eze. 34:23; Jn. 10. C.f. Mat. 9:36. See note to Sol. 1:11.

Ecccl 12:13

Mic. 6:8.