

21_ECC_02_01 I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also [is] vanity.

21_ECC_02_02 I said of laughter, [It is] mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?

21_ECC_02_03 I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what [was] that good for the sons of men, which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life.

21_ECC_02_04 I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards:

21_ECC_02_05 I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all [kind of] fruits:

21_ECC_02_06 I made me pools of water, to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees:

21_ECC_02_07 I got [me] servants and maidens, and had servants born in my house; also I had great possessions of great and small cattle above all that were in Jerusalem before me:

21_ECC_02_08 I gathered me also silver and gold, and the peculiar treasure of kings and of the provinces: I gat me men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men, [as] musical instruments, and that of all sorts.

21_ECC_02_09 So I was great, and increased more than all that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me.

21_ECC_02_10 And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

21_ECC_02_11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all [was] vanity and vexation of spirit, and [there was] no profit under the sun.

21_ECC_02_12 And I turned myself to behold wisdom, and madness, and folly: for what [can] the man [do] that cometh after the king? [even] that which hath been already done.

21_ECC_02_13 Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness.

21_ECC_02_14 The wise man's eyes [are] in his head; but the fool walketh in darkness: and I myself perceived also that one event happeneth to them all.

21_ECC_02_15 Then said I in my heart, As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me; and why was I then more wise? Then I said in my heart, that this also [is] vanity.

21_ECC_02_16 For [there is] no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool for ever; seeing that which now [is] in the days to come shall all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise [man]? as the fool.

21_ECC_02_17 Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun [is] grievous unto me: for all [is] vanity and vexation of spirit.

21_ECC_02_18 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.

21_ECC_02_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 showed myself wise under the sun. This [is] also vanity.

21_ECC_02_20 Therefore I went about to cause my heart to despair of all the labour which I took under the sun.

21_ECC_02_21 For there is a man whose labour [is] in wisdom, and in knowledge, and in equity; yet to a man that hath not laboured therein shall he leave it [for] his portion. This also [is] vanity and a great evil.

21_ECC_02_22 For what hath man of all his labour, and of the vexation of his heart, wherein he hath laboured under the sun?

21_ECC_02_23 For all his days [are] sorrows, and his travail grief; yea, his heart taketh not rest in the night. This is also vanity.

21_ECC_02_24 [There is] nothing better for a man, [than] that he should eat and drink, and [that] he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it [was] from the hand of God.

21_ECC_02_25 For who can eat, or who else can hasten [hereunto], more than I?

21_ECC_02_26 For [God] giveth to a man that [is] good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy; but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to [him that is] good before God. This also [is] vanity and vexation of spirit.