

ECCLESIASTES 1 vs 1

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The Hebrew title of this book is Qoheleth – one who speaks at the assembly – the Speaker. Solomon is not specifically mentioned in this book written around 935 bc though all references point to him as author. Martin Luther seems to be the first to suggest Solomon might not have written the book; but that it was written sometime after the Babylonian exile.

The NASB outlines Ecclesiastes with the following divisions: **The Author and the Thesis**; The Thesis demonstrated; God's Design for Life; The Futility of Life; The Futility of Riches; Advice for Living, and Conclusion.



1 The words of the Speaker, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

2 Vanity of vanities, says the Speaker, vanity of vanities; all is vanity.

3 What does a man gain from all his work which he does under the sun?

4 A generation passes away, and another generation comes: but the earth remains forever.

5 The sun arises, and the sun set, and hurries to its place where it rises again.

6 Blowing toward the south, turning toward the north; the wind whirls about continually, and returns again according to its course.

7 All the rivers flow into the sea; yet the sea is not full; to the place from where the rivers come, there they return again.

8 All things are laborious; weary beyond words: the eye is not satisfied seeing, nor is the ear filled with hearing.

9 What has been, is what will be; and what is done is what will be done: there is nothing new under the sun.

10 Is there anything which may be said, See, this is new? It existed already long before us.

11 The things that were are long forgotten; and after us, what things will come will also be forgotten by those who will come after.



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¹² I the Speaker was king over Israel in Jerusalem.

¹³ And I set my heart to study and search out fully all things that is done under heaven: - this sorry task that God has given to the sons of man to be engaged with.

¹⁴ I have seen all that is done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity an irritation of spirit.

¹⁵ What is crooked cannot be straightened: and what is needed cannot be numbered.

¹⁶ And I said to myself, Lo, I gained far more wisdom than any who were before me in Jerusalem: yes, my mind has experienced a wealth of wisdom and knowledge.

¹⁷ And I applied myself to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: and I perceived the more you know, the more you are irritated in spirit.

¹⁸ For in much wisdom is much grief: and the more you understand, the more you ache.

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3 Days are still on His Calendar