

ECCLESIASTES 7 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 A good name is better than a good ointment; and the day one dies is better than the day one was born.

² Better to go to a house of mourning, than to go to a house of indulging: for death is the end of all men; and the living should keep that in mind.

³ Grief is better than laughter: for sadness makes the soul better.

⁴ The heart of wise men turns to the house of mourning; but the heart of fools turns to the house of revelry.

⁵ It is better to attend to the censure from the wise, than to listen to the song of fools.

⁶ For like nettles crackling under a kettle, so is the cackle of the fool: this also is vanity.

⁷ For oppression makes a wise man crazy; and a bribe corrupts the heart.

⁸ It is better in the end of a matter than its beginning: and in your spirit, patience is better than pride.

⁹ Be not in a hurry to be angry: for anger resides in the heart of fools.

¹⁰ Never ask, Why was the past better than the present? for that is a foolish question.

¹¹ Wisdom is as good as an inheritance: a real profit for those who really see.

¹² For wisdom like wealth is a defense: but the advantage of knowledge is a safeguard, preserving those who possess it.

¹³ Consider the work of God: for who can straighten, what He has bent?

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¹⁴ In the day of prosperity be glad, but in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, to the end to keep man from knowing what is to happen.

¹⁵ I have seen everything during the days of my futility: the good man who perishes in his rightness, and the wrongdoer who extends his life in his wrongdoing.

¹⁶ Do not be overly-right; nor overly-wise: why should you ruin yourself ?

¹⁷ Be not overly-wrong, nor overly-foolish: why should you die prematurely?

¹⁸ It is good that you grasp this; yes, and not let go of the other: for the one who fears God comes forth with both of them.

¹⁹ Wisdom strengthens the wise more than ten officers who safeguard the city.

²⁰ For there is not a right man on earth, who does good, and does not sin.

²¹ Also, never take serious all that people say; lest you hear your own slave curse you:

²² for many times, you know at heart that you yourself also have cursed others.

²³ All this I have shown by wisdom: I thought, I will be wise; but it stayed out of my reach.

²⁴ Reality is beyond my grasp, and it lies very deep, who can discover it?

²⁵ I applied my mind to know, to explore, and discover wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wrongdoing of folly, even of its foolishness and madness:

²⁶ and I discovered something more bitter than even death -- the woman who entangles, whose heart are snares and nets, and whose hands are shackles: a man by God's good favor will escape her; but she will seize the sinner.

²⁷ Indeed, I have discovered this, says the Speaker, adding together one thing to another to discover the truth:

²⁸ which yet I am still seeking, but have not found. One man in a thousand I have found; but I have not found a woman among all these.

²⁹ This only I found, that God made man upright; but they sought many twisted pleasures.

[God of Wonders](#)