

Sepher Koheleth (Ecclesiastes)

Chapter 6

אֵיֶשׁ רָעָה אֲשֶׁר רָאִיתִי תַחַת הַשָּׁמֶשׁ וְרַבָּה הִיא עַל-הָאָדָם: Ecc6:1

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1. **yesh ra`ah 'asher ra'ithi tachath hashamesh w'rabbah hi' `al-ha'adam.**

Ecc6:1 There is an evil which I have seen under the sun and it is great among men

<6:1> Ἔστιν πονηρία, ἣν εἶδον ὑπὸ τὸν ἥλιον, καὶ πολλή ἐστὶν ἐπὶ τὸν ἄνθρωπον·

1 **Estin ponēria, hēn eidon hypo ton hēlion, kai pollē estin epi ton anthrōpon;**

There is a wickedness which I beheld under the sun, and it is abundant with men.

אִישׁ אֶחָד אֲשֶׁר יָתַן-לוֹ הָאֱלֹהִים עֲשָׂר וּנְכָסִים וְכָבוֹד

וְאֵינְנוּ חֹסֵר לְנַפְשׁוֹ מִכָּל אֲשֶׁר-יִתְּאוּהָ

וְלֹא-יִשְׁלִיטֵנוּ הָאֱלֹהִים לְאָכֹל מִמֶּנּוּ

כִּי אִישׁ נִכְרִי יֹאכְלֵנוּ זֶה הַקֵּל וְהַחֲלִי רָע הוּא:

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2. **'ish 'asher yiten-lo ha'Elohim `osher un'kasim w'kabod**

w'eynenu chaser l'napsh'ho mikol 'asher-yith'aueh

w'lo'-yash'litenu ha'Elohim le'ekol mimenu

ki 'ish nak'ri yo'kalenu zeh hebel wachali ra` hu'.

Ecc6:2 a man to whom the Elohim has given to him riches and wealth and honor

so that he lacks nothing for his soul of all that he desires;

yet the Elohim does not give him power to eat from them, for a foreign man eats it.

This is vanity and it is an evil disease.

<2> ἀνὴρ, ᾧ δώσει αὐτῷ ὁ θεὸς πλοῦτον καὶ ὑπάρχοντα καὶ δόξαν,

καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὑστερῶν τῇ ψυχῇ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ πάντων, ὧν ἐπιθυμήσει,

καὶ οὐκ ἐξουσιάσει αὐτῷ ὁ θεὸς τοῦ φαγεῖν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ,

ὅτι ἀνὴρ ξένος φάγεται αὐτόν· τοῦτο ματαιότης καὶ ἀρρωστία πονηρά ἐστίν.

2 anēr, hō dōsei autō ho theos plouton kai hyparchonta kai doxan,

A man to whom shall give to him the Elohim wealth, and possessions, and glory,

kai ouk estin husterōn tē psychē autou apo pantōn, hōn epithymēsei,

and there is nothing lacking to his soul from all things which he shall desire;

kai ouk exousiasei autō ho theos tou phagein ap' autou,

yet shall not give authority to him the Elohim to eat from it;

hoti anēr xenos phagetai auton; touto mataiotēs kai arrōstia ponēra estin.

for a man, a stranger, shall eat it. And this folly and sickness an evil is.

this has more **rest** than the other.

<5> καί γε ἥλιον οὐκ εἶδεν καὶ οὐκ ἔγνω, ἀνάπαυσις τούτῳ ὑπὲρ τούτου.

5 kai **ge hēlion ouk eiden** kai **ouk egnō**, **anapausis toutō hyper touton**.

And **indeed the sun he knew not**, and **knows not rest this one over this other one**.

וְאֵלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם
וְאֵלֹהֵי הָאָרֶץ
וְאֵלֹהֵי הַיָּם
וְאֵלֹהֵי הַבְּרָשִׁית
וְאֵלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם
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וְאֵלֹהֵי הַבְּרָשִׁית

6. **w'ilu chayah 'eleph shanim pa`amayim**
w'tobah lo' ra'ah halo' 'el-maqom 'echad hakol holek.

Ecc6:6 Yes, though he lives a thousand years twice,
Yet he has seen no good. Do not all go to one place?

<6> καὶ εἰ ἔζησεν χιλίων ἐτῶν καθόδους καὶ ἀγαθωσύνην οὐκ εἶδεν,
μὴ οὐκ εἰς τόπον ἓνα τὰ πάντα πορεύεται;

6 kai **ei ezēsen chiliōn etōn kathodous** kai **agathōsynēn ouk eiden**,

And **if he lived a thousand years of returns**, and **goodness he knows not**,

mē ouk eis topon hena ta panta poreuetai?

is it not unto place one all shall go?

וְכָל-עֵמֶל הָאָדָם לְפִיּהוּ וְגַם-הַנְּפֶשֶׁת לֹא תִמְלֵא:
וְכָל-עֵמֶל הָאָדָם לְפִיּהוּ וְגַם-הַנְּפֶשֶׁת לֹא תִמְלֵא:
וְכָל-עֵמֶל הָאָדָם לְפִיּהוּ וְגַם-הַנְּפֶשֶׁת לֹא תִמְלֵא:
וְכָל-עֵמֶל הָאָדָם לְפִיּהוּ וְגַם-הַנְּפֶשֶׁת לֹא תִמְלֵא:

7. **kal-`amal ha'adam l'phihu w'gam-hanepshesh lo' thimale'.**

Ecc6:7 All a man's labor is for his mouth and yet the soul is not filled.

<7> Πᾶς μόχθος τοῦ ἀνθρώπου εἰς στόμα αὐτοῦ, καί γε ἡ ψυχὴ οὐ πληρωθήσεται.

7 **Pas mochthos tou anthrōpou eis stoma autou**, kai **ge hē psychē ou plērōthēsetai**.

Every effort of man is for his mouth, and **indeed the soul shall not be filled**.

חֲכִי מִהַיּוֹתֵר לְחַכֵּם מִן-הַכְּסִיל מִהַ-לְעֲנִי
יִוְדַע לְהִלָּךְ נִגְדַת הַחַיִּים:
חֲכִי מִהַיּוֹתֵר לְחַכֵּם מִן-הַכְּסִיל מִהַ-לְעֲנִי
יִוְדַע לְהִלָּךְ נִגְדַת הַחַיִּים:

8. **ki mah-yother lechakam min-hak'sil mah-le`ani yode`a lahalok neged hachayim.**

Ecc6:8 For what advantage does the wise more than the fool?
What advantage does the poor have, that knows to walk before the living?

<8> ὅτι τίς περισσεία τῷ σοφῷ ὑπὲρ τὸν ἄφρονα;
διότι ὁ πένης οἶδεν πορευθῆναι κατέναντι τῆς ζῴης.

8 **hoti tis perisseia tō sophō hyper ton aphrona?**

For what advantage to the wise over the fool,

dioti ho penēs oiden poreuthēnai katenanti tēs zōēs.

for the needy knows to go in front of life?

יבִּכִי מִי־יֹדַעַּ מַה־טוֹב לְאָדָם
בַּחַיִּים מִסֵּפֶר יְמֵי־חַיָּי הַבָּלוּ וַיַּעֲשִׂם כַּצֵּל
אֲשֶׁר מִי־יִגִּיד לְאָדָם מַה־יִּהְיֶה אַחֲרָיו תַּחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם:

12. **ki mi-yode`a mah-tob la'adam**

bachayim mis'par y'mey-chayey heb'lo w'ya`asem katsel

'asher mi-yagid la'adam mah-yih'yeh 'acharayu tachath hashamesh.

Ecc6:12 For who knows what is good for a man in this life, the number of the days of his vain life? He shall spend them as a shadow.

For who can tell a man what shall be after him under the sun?

<12> ὅτι τίς οἶδεν τί ἀγαθὸν τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ ἐν τῇ ζωῇ
ἀριθμὸν ἡμερῶν ζωῆς ματαιότητος αὐτοῦ; καὶ ἐποίησεν αὐτὰς ἐν σκιά·
ὅτι τίς ἀπαγγελεῖ τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ τί ἔσται ὀπίσω αὐτοῦ ὑπὸ τὸν ἥλιον;

12 **hoti tis oiden ti agathon tō anthrōpō en tē zōē arithmon hēmerōn**

For who knows what is good to man in life, during the number of the days

zōēs mataiotētos autou? kai epoiēsen autas en skiā;

of the life of his folly? And he spent them as a shadow;

hoti tis apaggelei tō anthrōpō ti estai opisō autou hypo ton hēlion?

for who shall report to man what shall be after him under the sun?