

Vanity in Good Things

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2:26 (Series: When Life Seems Futile)

On February 23, 2025, by Philip Pinto @ Village Bible Church

I. The vanity (vapor) of life (Ec. 1-6)

A. The words of the _____ (1:1-11)

1. Intro (v.1) Identifying the author as _____
(Ec. 1:1,16; 2:4,8; cf. 1 Kings 3:3-15)

Preacher = *Kohleth* (Hebrew) the title given to an official speaker who calls an assembly

Assembly/Ecclesiastes = *Ekklesia* – (Greek) a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place, an assembly [*Thayer and Smith's Greek Lexicon*]

2. All is _____ (v. 2-7) [*hebel* - (Hebrew) vapour, breath; vanity (fig.) adv]

a. _____ come and go;
nothing is gained by your labor (v. 2-4)

b. The _____ rises and falls without regard (v. 5)

c. The _____ blows without regard (v. 6)

d. The _____ continue to run (v. 7)

3. Life is full of _____ (v. 8-11)

a. Our _____ are never fully satisfied (v. 8)

b. There is nothing _____ (v. 9-11)

1.) Former things are _____
(v. 10-11a)

2.) Things still to come will also be _____
(v. 11b)

B. The preacher's experience (research) (1:12-2:26)

1. _____ (1:12-18)

2. _____-indulgence (2:1-11)

3. _____ living (2:12-17)

4. Hard _____ ("toil") (2:18-26)

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- I. The vanity (vapor) of life (Ec. 1-6)
 - A. The words of the **preacher** (1:1-11)
 1. Intro (v.1) Identifying the author as **Solomon** (Ec. 1:1,16; 2:4,8; cf. 1 Kings 3:3-15)

Preacher = *Koheleth* (Hebrew) the title given to an official speaker who calls an assembly
Assembly/Ecclesiastes = *Ekklesia* – (Greek) a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place, an assembly
[Thayer and Smith's Greek Lexicon]
 2. All is **vanity** (v. 2-7) [*hebel* - (Hebrew) vapour, breath; vanity (fig.) adv]
 - a. **Generations** come and go; nothing is gained by your labor (v. 2-4)
 - b. The **sun** rises and falls without regard (v. 5)
 - c. The **wind** blows without regard (v. 6)
 - d. The **rivers** continue to run (v. 7)
 3. Life is full of **weariness** (v. 8-11)
 - a. Our **desires** are never fully satisfied (v. 8)
 - b. There is nothing **new** (v. 9-11)
 - 1.) Former things are **forgotten** (v. 10-11a)
 - 2.) Things still to come will also be **forgotten** (v. 11b)
 - B. The preacher's experience (research) (1:12-2:26)
 1. **Wisdom** (1:12-18)
 2. **Self**-indulgence (2:1-11)
 3. **Wise** living (2:12-17)
 4. Hard **work** ("toil") (2:18-26)

Pastor's Note: Can there be "Vanity [even] in Good Things"? In the first two chapters of Ecclesiastes, Solomon officially calls an assembly to deliver a message about the vanity *he* found in pursuing things that weren't bad in and of themselves. It's an important warning all people (Christians or not) should heed.