



ECCLESIASTES

Discovering Life in the Land of Death



Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 ESV

The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

³ What does man gain by all the toil
at which he toils under the sun?



Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 ESV

⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes,
but the earth remains forever.

⁵ The sun rises, and the sun goes down,
and hastens to the place where it rises.

⁶ The wind blows to the south
and goes around to the north;
around and around goes the wind,
and on its circuits the wind returns.



Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 ESV

⁷ All streams run to the sea,
but the sea is not full;
to the place where the streams flow,
there they flow again.

⁸ All things are full of weariness;
a man cannot utter it;
the eye is not satisfied with seeing,
nor the ear filled with hearing.

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



Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 ESV

¹⁰ Is there a thing of which it is said,
“See, this is new”?

It has been already
in the ages before us.

¹¹ There is no remembrance of former things,
nor will there be any remembrance
of later things yet to be
among those who come after.



Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 ESV

¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

¹⁵ What is crooked cannot be made straight, and what is lacking cannot be counted.



Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 ESV

¹⁶ I said in my heart, “I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and my heart has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.” ¹⁷ And I applied my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a striving after wind.

¹⁸ For in much wisdom is much vexation,
and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.

Everything is Vanity



Ecclesiastes 1:2-3 ESV

- ² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.
- ³ What does man gain by all the toil
at which he toils under the sun?





Everything is Going in Circles



Ecclesiastes 1:5-10 ESV

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Everything is Going in Circles



Ecclesiastes 1:5-10 ESV

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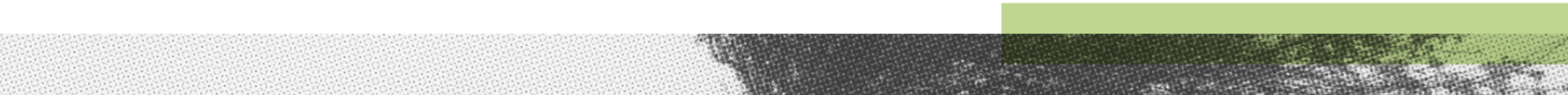
Everyone is Eventually Forgotten



Ecclesiastes 1:4, 11 ESV

⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.

¹¹ There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.



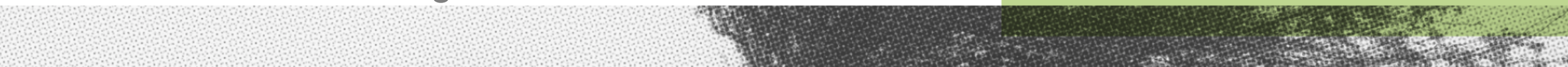
The More you Know, the More Frustrating Everything is



Ecclesiastes 1:12-18 ESV

¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

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The More you Know, the More Frustrating Everything is



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and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.

The End of the Matter



Ecclesiastes 1:12-18 ESV

Now all has been heard;

here is the conclusion of the matter:

Fear God and keep his commandments,
for this is the duty of all mankind.

¹⁴ For God will bring every deed into judgment,
including every hidden thing,
whether it is good or evil.

“Fear God in everything; enjoy God in the little things.”

Tony Merida

Jesus the True and Greater Solomon



Matthew 12:42 CSB

The queen of the south will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and look—something greater than Solomon is here.

“Lay your life down. Your heartbeats cannot be hoarded. Your reservoir of breaths is draining away. You have hands, blister them while you can. You have bones, make them strain — they can carry nothing in the grave. You have lungs, let them spill with laughter...Burden your moments with thankfulness.

N.D Wilson

Be as empty as you can be when that clock winds down. Spend your life...Ride the roaring wave of providence with eager expectation. Search for the stories all around me. [Learn] to see Christ in every pair of eyes. Write a past [you] won't regret. Live hard and die grateful. And enjoy it."

N.D Wilson