



Ketouvim (hagiographes) - Ecclésiaste

Chapter 1

- 1,1 The words of Koheleth, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.
- 1,2 Vanity of vanities, saith Koheleth; vanity of vanities, all is vanity.
- 1,3 What profit hath man of all his labour wherein he laboureth under the sun?
- 1,4 One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh; and the earth abideth for ever.
- 1,5 The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he ariseth.
- 1,6 The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it turneth about continually in its circuit, and the wind returneth again to its circuits.
- 1,7 All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; unto the place whither the rivers go, thither they go again.
- 1,8 All things toil to weariness; man cannot utter it, the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.
- 1,9 That which hath been is that which shall be, and that which hath been done is that which shall be done; and there is nothing new under the sun.
- 1,10 Is there a thing whereof it is said: 'See, this is new'?--it hath been already, in the ages which were before us.
- 1,11 There is no remembrance of them of former times; neither shall there be any remembrance of them of latter times that are to come, among those that shall come after.
- 1,12 I Koheleth have been king over Israel in Jerusalem.
- 1,13 And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven; it is a sore task that God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised therewith.
- 1,14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.
- 1,15 That which is crooked cannot be made straight; and that which is wanting cannot be numbered.
- 1,16 I spoke with my own heart, saying: 'Lo, I have gotten great wisdom, more also than all that were before me over Jerusalem'; yea, my heart hath had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.
- 1,17 And I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly--I perceived that this also was a striving after wind.
- 1,18 For in much wisdom is much vexation; and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow.