

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

- I. (Superscription)
 - A. The words of the Preacher,
 - B. the son of David, king in Jerusalem.
- II. (Theme verse)
 - A. "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher,
 - B. "Vanity of vanities! All is vanity."
- III. (Question)
 - A. What advantage does man have in all his work
 - B. Which he does under the sun?
- IV. (The 'circular' arguments)
 - A. (Human generations)
 - 1. A generation goes and a generation comes,
 - 2. But the earth remains forever.
 - B. (Natural cycles)
 - 1. (the sun)
 - a. Also, the sun rises and the sun sets;
 - b. And hastening to its place it rises there *again*.
 - 2. (the wind)
 - a. Blowing toward the south,
 - b. Then turning toward the north,
 - c. The wind continues swirling along;
 - d. And on its circular courses the wind returns.
 - 3. (the water)
 - a. All the rivers flow into the sea,
 - b. Yet the sea is not full.
 - c. To the place where the rivers flow,
 - d. There they flow again.
 - C. (Human experience)
 - 1. (all things)
 - a. All things are wearisome;
 - b. Man is not able to tell *it*.
 - c. The eye is not satisfied with seeing,
 - d. Nor is the ear filled with hearing.
 - 2. (human achievements)
 - a. That which has been is that which will be,
 - b. And that which has been done is that which will be done.
 - c. So there is nothing new under the sun.
 - i. Is there anything of which one might say, "See this, it is new"?
 - ii. Already it has existed for ages Which were before us.
 - 3. (former history)
 - a. There is no remembrance of earlier things;
 - b. And also of the later things which will occur,
 - c. There will be for them no remembrance
 - d. Among those who will come later *still*.