

ECCLESIASTES 9.

CHAPTER 9.

¹ Like things happen to good and bad. ⁴ There is a necessity of death unto men. ⁷ Of comfort in this life. ¹¹ God's providence ruleth over all. ¹³ Wisdom is better than strength.

FOR all this ¹ I considered in my heart even to ² declare all this, ³ that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God: ⁴ no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that is before them.

² All things come alike to all: there is ³ one event to the righteous, and to the wicked; to the good and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth, and to him that sacrificeth not: as is the good, so is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath.

³ This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is ⁴ one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil,

and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

⁴ ¶ For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion.

⁵ For the living know that they shall die: but ^a the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for ^b the memory of them is forgotten.

⁶ Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun.

⁷ ¶ Go thy way, ^d eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; ^e for God now accepteth thy works.

⁸ Let ^f thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment.

⁹ ² Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, ^h which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: ⁱ for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun.

¹⁰ Whatsoever ^m thy hand findeth to do, ⁿ do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor ^p device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

^a Cp. Job 14. 21.

^b ch. 8. 10. Ps. 31. 12 & 88. 5, 12. 15. 26. 14. Cp. Job 7. 8-10.

^c ch. 3. 21. Job 5. 9.

^d ch. 2. 24. Cp. 1 Sam. 1. 28. ^e Cp. ver. 11. ch. 11. 9.

^f Ps. 73. 16. ^g Rev. 3. 4.

^h Heb. See, or, Enjoy life. ch. 2. 1.

ⁱ ch. 3. 13.

^j ch. 2. 10, 24.

^k Heb. I gave, or, set to my heart. ch. 3. 22 & 8. 16.

^l Cp. ch. 3. 18. ^m ch. 8. 14.

ⁿ Judg. 9. 33. ^o Rom. 12. 11.

^p Cp. Heb. 12. 5.

^q ch. 7. 25. ^r Job 9. 22 & 21. 7-10.

^s Ps. 73. 3. Mal. 3. 14.

^t ch. 2. 14. ^u Amos 2. 14.

^v Chr. 20. 15. ^w Prov. 13. 15.

^x 1 Kin. 5. 4. ^y ch. 8. 7.

^z Prov. 7. 23.

^{aa} Prov. 29. 6. Luke 21. 35.