

provinces; I acquired for me men singers and women singers, and the delights of bnei haAdam, musical instruments of all kinds.

|9| So I was great, and excelled more than all that were before me in Yerushalayim; also my chochmah remained with me.

|10| And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my lev from any simchah; for my lev rejoiced in all my amal (labor); and this was my chelek (portion) for all my amal.

|11| Then I looked on kol ma'asim that my hands had wrought, and on the amal that I had labored to do; and, hinei, all was hevel and chasing after ruach, and there was no profit under the shemesh.

|12| And I turned myself to consider chochmah, and holelot, and sichlut; for what can the adam do who cometh after HaMelech? Even that which hath been done already.

|13| Then I saw that chochmah excelleth sichlut, as far as ohr excelleth choshech.

|14| The chacham (wise man) hath eyes in his rosh; but the kesil (fool) walketh in choshech; but I myself perceived also that the same mikreh (fortune) happeneth to them all.

|15| Then said I in my lev, As the mikreh befalls the kesil, so also will the same mikreh befall me; and wherein have I then been of more chochmah? Then I said in my lev, This also is hevel.

|16| For no zichron (remembrance) of the chacham—no less the kesil—remains l'olam; seeing that in hayamim haba'im (the days to come) all shall be forgotten. How can the chacham die just like the kesil?

|17| Therefore I hated HaChayyim (Life); because the ma'aseh that is wrought under the shemesh is grievous unto me; for all is hevel and chasing after ruach.

|18| Yea, I hated all my amal for which I had toiled under the shemesh; because I must leave it unto the adam that shall occupy my place after me.

|19| And who hath da'as whether he shall be a chacham or a kesil? Nevertheless shall he have shlitah (control, authority) over all my amal for which I have toiled, and have poured out my chochmah under the shemesh. This also is hevel.

|20| Therefore I turned aside to give up my lev to despair over all the wearisome amal with which I toiled under the shemesh.

|21| For there is an adam whose amal is with chochmah, and da'as, and kishron (skill); yet to an adam that hath not worked for it he must leave it for his chelek. This also is hevel and a ra'ah rabbah.

|22| For what hath adam for all his amal, and for all the striving of his lev, wherein he hath labored under the shemesh?

|23| For all his yamim are machovim (sorrows), and his travail ka'as (grief, vexation); yea, his lev taketh not rest balailah. This also is hevel.

|24| There is nothing better for adam, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his nefesh find satisfaction in his amal. Also this I saw; even this was from the Yad HaElohim.

|25| For who can eat, or who can find enjoyment without Hashem?

|26| For to the adam that is pleasing in His sight, Hashem gives chochmah, and da'as, and simchah; but to the

choteh (sinner) Hashem giveth travail; Hashem giveth the work of gathering and storing up, that Hashem may give to him that pleases HaElohim. This also is hevel and chasing after ruach.

3 To every thing there is a zeman (time), and an et (season) for every matter under Shomayim;

|2| An et (season) to be born, and an et (season) to die; an et (season) to plant, and an et (season) to uproot that which is planted;

|3| An et (season) to kill, and an et (season) to heal; an et (season) to tear down, and an et (season) to build up;

|4| An et (season) to weep, and an et (season) to laugh; an et (season) to mourn, and an et (season) to dance;

|5| An et (season) to throw stones away, and an et (season) to gather stones together; an et (season) to embrace, and an et (season) to refrain from embracing;

|6| An et (season) to look for, and an et (season) to lose; an et (season) to keep, and an et (season) to throw away;

|7| An et (season) to tear, and an et (season) to mend; an et (season) to keep silent, and an et (season) to speak;

|8| An et (season) to love, and an et (season) to hate; an et (season) of milchamah, and an et (season) of shalom.

|9| What profit hath the worker from his amal (labor)?

|10| I have seen the occupation, which Elohim hath given to the bnei HaAdam to keep them occupied.

|11| Hashem hath made every thing yafeh in its et (season); also He hath set HaOlam in their lev, yet so that no adam can find out the ma'aseh that HaElohim hath done from the beginning to the end.