

# Ecclesiastes 9

Neue englische Darby-Übersetzung



**1** For all this I laid to my heart and *indeed* to investigate all this, that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God; man knows neither love nor hatred: all is before them.

**2** All things *come* alike to all: one event to the righteous and to the wicked, to the good, and to the clean, and to the unclean, to him that sacrifices and to him that sacrifices not: as is the good, so is the sinner; he that swears, as he that fears an oath.

**3** This is an evil among all that is done under the sun, that one thing befalls all: yes, also the heart of the children of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live; and after that, *they have to 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 will die; but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward, for the memory of them is forgotten.

**6** Their love also, and their hatred, and their envy is already perished; neither have they any more for ever a portion in all that is done under the sun.

**7** Go, eat *your* bread with joy, and drink *your* wine with a merry heart; for God has already accepted *your* works.

**8** Let *your* garments be always white, and let not *your* head lack oil.

**9** Enjoy life with the wife whom *you* love all the days of the life of *your* vanity, which he has given *you* under the sun, all the days of *your* vanity; for that is *your* portion in life, and in *your* labor in which *you* are laboring under the sun.

**10** Whatever *your* hand finds to do, do with *your* might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in Sheol, to where *you* go.

**11** I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to the intelligent, nor yet favor to men of knowledge; but time and chance happens to them all.

**12** For man also knows not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are taken with the trap, like them are the children of men trapped in an evil time, when it falls suddenly upon them.

**13** This also have I seen as wisdom under the sun, and it was great unto me.

**14** There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and encompassed it, and built great bulwarks against it:

**15** and there was found in it a poor wise man, who by his wisdom delivered the city; but no man remembered that poor man.

**16** Then said I, Wisdom is better than strength; but the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard.

**17** The words of the wise are heard in quiet more than the cry of him that rules among fools.

**18** Wisdom is better than weapons of war; but one sinner destroys much good.