

Ecclesiastes 4:13-16

Literal English Translation
Trilinear Text

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16
Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 1:3-6:12
The Personal Experiences of Solomon (continued)

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16
The Observations of the Human Condition

Ecclesiastes 4:1-3
The Observation of Oppression

Ecclesiastes 4:1
The Condition of Suffering

**1) And I had returned again, I *myself*,
and saw all of the oppressions
which *are* happening under the sun.
And behold *the* tears of the ones being oppressed,
and for them *there was* no comforter!
And from *the* hand of the ones oppressing them *was* power;
and for them *there was* no comforter.**

Ecclesiastes 4:2-3
The Conclusion concerning Oppression

**2) And I commended, I *myself*, the dead,
who already had died,
more than the living
who they themselves *are* still alive.**

**3) And better than both of them
is the one who has not yet existed,
who has not seen the evil work
which has been done under the sun.**

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 4:4-6

The Observation of Envy

Ecclesiastes 4:4
The Condition of Success

**4) And I have seen, I *myself*,
all labor, and all success of work,
that it is envied of a man
against his neighbor;
this also *is* vanity and chasing of wind.**

Ecclesiastes 4:5
The Contrast with the Fool

**5) The fool *is* folding his hands together
and *is* eating his own flesh.**

Ecclesiastes 4:6
The Conclusion: A Proverb

**6) Better *is a* handful of rest,
than *two* handfuls of labor
and chasing of wind.**

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12 The Observation of Aloneness

Ecclesiastes 4:7-8
The Condition of Singleness

**7) Then I had returned again, I *myself*,
and I saw vanity under the sun.**

**8) There is one, and *there is not* a second *one*;
also a son and brother *there is not* to him;
and *there is not an* end to all of his labor;
also his eyes will not be satisfied *with* wealth;
and *he says*, For whom am I laboring,
and depriving my soul from goodness?
Also *this is* vanity, and it *is an* occupation of evil.**

Ecclesiastes 4:9
The Companionship Proverb

**9) Better are the two than the one;
because there is for them
a good reward in their labor.**

Ecclesiastes 4:10-12
The Compensations of Companionship

**10) Because if they will fall,
the one will lift up his companion.
But woe to him, the one who will fall,
and *there is not a second one* to raise him up.**

**11) Also if two will lie down *together*,
then it will have been warm for them;
but for one, how will he be warmed?**

**12) And if *someone* will overpower him - the one,
the two will stand against him;
and the threefold cord will be not quickly torn apart.**

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16
Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 4:13-16
The Observation of Position

Ecclesiastes 4:13-14
The Condition of Status

**13) Better *is a* child poor and wise
than *a* king old and foolish
who has not known to be warned any more.**

**14) Because from the house of the prisoners
he has gone out to reign,
because also in his kingdom he has been born poor.**

Ecclesiastes 4:15
The Change in Succession

**15) I have seen all the ones living
who are walking around under the sun,
with the second child
who will stand up instead of him.**

Ecclesiastes 4:16
The Conclusion to Succession

**16) *There is* no end to all of the people,
to all who have been before them;
also the later ones will not rejoice in him.
Because also *this is* vanity
and chasing of wind.**

Ecclesiastes 4:13-16

Trilinear Text

13) Better is a child poor and wise

יג. טוב ילד מִסֶּבֶן יָדָהּ מִחֶכְמָה
'Αγαθὸς παῖς πένης καὶ σοφὸς

than a king old and foolish

מִמֶּלֶךְ זָקֵן וְכֹסֵל
ὕπερ βασιλέα πρεσβύτερον καὶ ἄφρονα,

who has not known to be warned any more.

אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָדַע לְהִזְהָר עוֹד:
ὃς οὐκ ἔγνω τοῦ προσέχειν ἔτι·

14) Because from the house of the prisoners

יד. מִבֵּית-כִּי מִסוּרִים
ὅτι ἐξ οἴκου τῶν δεσμίων

he has gone out to reign,

יֵצֵא לְמֶלֶךְ
ἐξελεύσεται τοῦ βασιλεῦσαι,

because also in his kingdom he has been born poor.

גַּם כִּי בְּמַלְכוּתוֹ נִוְלַד עָרֵב:
ὅτι καὶ γε ἐν βασιλείᾳ αὐτοῦ ἐγεννήθη πένης.

15) I have seen all the ones living

טו. רָאִיתִי כָּל-חַיִּים-כָּל-אֶת
εἶδον σὺν πάντας τοὺς ζῶντας

who are walking around under the sun,

הַמְהֻלְכִים תַּחַת הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ
τοὺς περιπατοῦντας ὑπὸ τὸν ἥλιον

with the second child

עִם הַיָּלֵד הַשֵּׁנִי
μετὰ τοῦ νεανίσκου τοῦ δευτέρου,

who will stand up instead of him.

אֲשֶׁר יַעֲמֵד תַּחְתָּיו:
ὃς στήσεται ἀντ' αὐτοῦ,

Ecclesiastes 4:13-16

Trilinear Text

16) *There is no end to all of the people,*

זט. קץ-אין העם-לכל
οὐκ ἔστιν περασμὸς τῷ παντὶ λαῶ,

to all who have been before them;

לכל הנה-אשר לפניהם
τοῖς πᾶσιν, ὅσοι ἐγένοντο ἔμπροσθεν αὐτῶν·

also the later ones will not rejoice in him.

גם האחרונים בו-ישמחו לא
καὶ γε οἱ ἔσχατοι οὐκ εὐφρανθήσονται ἐν αὐτῷ·

because also this is vanity

 זה-גם-כי הקל
ὅτι καὶ γε τοῦτο ματαιότης

and chasing of wind.

 רעיון רוח:
καὶ προαίρεσις πνεύματος.