

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11

Literal English Translation
Trilinear Text

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11
Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 7:1-12:8
The Proverbs of Solomon

Ecclesiastes 10
The Application of Wisdom to Foolishness

Ecclesiastes 10:1-3
The Contamination of Foolishness in Life

(1) Flies of death cause the oil of a perfumer to send out a stinking odor; so a little foolishness is weightier than wisdom, than honor.

(2) A wise heart goes to his right, but A foolish heart goes to his left.

(3) And also, in the way when a fool is walking, his heart is lacking, and he has said to everyone that he is a fool.

Ecclesiastes 10:4-7
The Corruption of Foolishness in Life

(4) If the spirit of the ruler rises up against you, do not leave your place; because composure pacifies great sins.

(5) There is evil I have seen under the sun, like unintentional sin going out from the presence of the ruler:

(6) folly has been placed in many high positions, and many rich men are sitting in the low place.

(7) I have seen slaves upon horses, and rulers walking as slaves upon the earth.

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11
Literal English Translation

Ecclesiastes 10:8-11
The Calamity of Foolishness in Life

**(8) *The one digging a pit will fall in it;*
and the one breaking through a wall,
*a snake will bite him.***

**(9) *The one removing stones will be hurt by them;*
*the one splitting wood will be endangered by them.***

**(10) *If the iron has become dull,*
and he has not sharpened the edges,
then he will apply more strength;
*But wisdom causes an advantage for success.***

**(11) *If the snake will bite before being charmed,*
*then there is no advantage to a master of the tongue.***

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11

Tri-Linear Text

(1) Flies of death cause the oil of *a* perfumer

א. מִן תְּזַבְּבִי יְבִיעַ יְבֵאֵישׁ
Μυῖαι θανατοῦσαι σαπριοῦσιν σκευασίαν

to send out *a* stinking odor; *so a* little foolishness

רוֹקַח שְׂמֶן מִכְּבוֹד מִחֶקְמָה יָקָר
ἐλαίου ἡδύσματος· τίμιον ὀλίγον σοφίας

is weightier than wisdom, than honor.

טַמְעָט: סְכָלוֹת
ὑπὲρ δόξαν ἀφροσύνης μεγάλης.

(2) A wise heart *goes* to his right,

ב. לְבָב לִימִינֹו
καρδία σοφοῦ εἰς δεξιὸν αὐτοῦ,

but A foolish heart *goes* to his left.

לְבָב לְשִׂמְאֹל: כְּסִיל וְלֵב
καὶ καρδία ἄφρονος εἰς ἀριστερὸν αὐτοῦ·

(3) And also, in the way when *a* fool

ג. בְּדַרְךְ-וְגַם (כְּשֶׁהֶסְכַּל) [כְּשֶׁסְכַּל]
καὶ γε ἐν ὁδῷ ὅταν ἄφρων

is walking, his heart *is* lacking, and he has said

וְאָמַר הָלַךְ לְבֹו קָסַר
πορεύηται, καρδία αὐτοῦ ὑστερήσει, καὶ ἄλογιεῖται

to everyone *that* he *is* a fool.

לְכָל הוּא סָכַל:
πάντα ἀφροσύνη ἐστίν.

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11

Tri-Linear Text

(4) If *the spirit of the ruler*

7. אַחֲרַיִתְּךָ לְשׂוֹמֵר
ἐὰν πνεῦμα τοῦ ἐξουσιάζοντος

rises up against you,

תִּעָלֶה עָלֶיךָ
ἀναβῆ ἐπὶ σέ,

do not leave your place;

מִקּוֹמְךָ תִּנְחַל
τόπον σου μὴ ἀφῆς,

because composure pacifies great sins.

כִּי יָגֻדוּלִים חַטּוֹת גְּדוֹלוֹת
ὅτι ἴαμα καταπαύσει ἁμαρτίας μεγάλας.

(5) There is evil

8. הֲיֵשׁ הָרָעָה
ἔστιν πονηρία,

I have seen under the sun,

רָאִיתִי תַּחַת הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ
ἦν εἶδον ὑπὸ τὸν ἥλιον,

like unintentional *sin* going out

כְּשִׁיחָא
ὡς ἀκούσιον, ὃ ἐξῆλθεν

from the presence of the ruler:

מִלְּפָנֶיךָ הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ
ἀπὸ προσώπου τοῦ ἐξουσιάζοντος.

(6) folly has been placed in many high *positions*,

9. בְּמִרוֹמִים בְּרָבִיבָה
ἐδόθη ὁ ἀφρων ἐν ὑψησι μεγάλοις,

and many rich men are sitting in the low place.

יֹשְׁבֵי בֵּשָׁר יְשִׁיבוּ
καὶ πλούσιοι ἐν ταπεινῶ καθήσονται.

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11

Tri-Linear Text

(7) I have seen slaves upon horses,

ז. רְאִיתִי עֲבָדִים סוֹסִים-עַל
είδον δούλους ἐφ' ἵππους

and rulers walking as slaves upon the earth.

 וְשָׂרִים הֹלְכִים פְּעֻבָּדִים עַל-הָאָרֶץ-עַל
καὶ ἄρχοντας πορευομένους ὡς δούλους ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς.

(8) The one digging a pit will fall in it;

ח. חָפַר גּוּמָץ בּו יְפוּלִי
ὁ ὀρύσσων βόθρον ἐν αὐτῷ ἐμπεσεῖται,

and the one breaking through a wall, a snake will bite him.

 וּפָרַץ גִּדָּר יִשְׁכָּנוּ שִׁנָּה
καὶ καθαιρούντα φραγμόν, δήξεται αὐτὸν ὄφης·

(9) The one removing stones will be hurt by them;

ט. מְסִיעַ אֲבָנִים יַעֲצֹב בָּהֶם
ἐξαίρων λίθους διαπονηθήσεται ἐν αὐτοῖς,

the one splitting wood will be endangered by them.

 בּוֹקֵעַ יַעֲצִים יִסְכָּן בָּהֶם
σχίζων ξύλα κινδυνεύσει ἐν αὐτοῖς.

(10) If the iron has become dull,

י. קָהָה-אֵם הַבְּרִזָּל
ἐὰν ἐκπέση τὸ σιδήριον,

and he has not sharpened the edges,

 וְהוּא פְּנִים-לֹא קָלְקַל
καὶ αὐτὸς πρόσωπον ἐτάραξεν,

then he will apply more strength;

 וְחִלִּים יִגְבֵּר
καὶ δυνάμεις δυναμώσει,

But wisdom causes an advantage for success.

 וַיִּתְרוֹן הַכְּשִׁיר הַכְּמָה
καὶ περισσεῖα τοῦ ἀνδρείου σοφία.

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Tri-Linear Text

(11) If the snake will bite before being charmed,

אִי. מִאֲשֶׁר-יִשָּׂא שֶׁנֶּחֱמָה אֶל-שִׁפְלֵי-חַיִּים
ἐὰν δάκη ὁ ὄφις ἐν οὐ ψιθυρισμῶ,

then there *is* no advantage to a master of the tongue.

אִי יִשָּׂא יִתְרוֹן לְבַעַל הַלָּשׁוֹן:
καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν περισσεία τῷ ἐπάδοντι.