



Chasing Wisdom, Grasping the Wind
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Key Passage: Ecclesiastes 1

“Hevel, hevel, everything is utterly hevel.” IRbRQh hevel — “vanity” • Hebrew: vapor, smoke
→ used 38 times

- 1) Temporary, fleeting; 2) enigma, paradox

Insight # 1 - The things we typically wear ourselves out for do not provide enduring satisfaction or meaning in this life.

- Shaky Foundations upon Which to Build - Personal satisfaction (v. 8) - Original achievement (vv. 9-10) - Lasting renown (v. 11) - Your own performance and merit (v. 15; Eccl. 9:11)

Insight # 2 - No matter how you live, you are always going to find that there is something missing here on this earth.

- “If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.” (C.S. Lewis)

Insight # 3 - The author wants to mess with us. His basic goal is to let the Teacher deconstruct all the ways we find meaning and purpose apart from God.

- We are invited to sit a moment among the rubble the Teacher has made of our well planned lives. Then—and only then—can we learn to live well.

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.” (Matthew 7:24-25)

