

- 1 וְהִנֵּה בְטוֹב וְרֵאָה בְשִׂמְחָה אֲנֹסְכָה נָא לֵכֵה בְלִבִּי אֲנִי אֲמַרְתִּי  
amrthi ani blbi lke na anske bshmche urae btub uene  
I-said I in-heart-of-me go! please! I-shall-probe-you in-rejoicing and-see! in-good and-behold!
- 1 I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also [is] vanity.
- גַּם הִבֵּל הוּא  
gm eua ebl  
moreover he vanity
- 2 עֲשֵׂה זֶה מָה וְלִשְׂמֹחָה מְהוּלָל אֲמַרְתִּי לְשִׁחוּק  
lshchuq amrthi meull ulshmche me ze oshe  
to-sport I-said being-rave and-for-rejoicing what? this doing
- 2 I said of laughter, [It is] mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?
- 3 בַּחֲכָמָה נִהְגַּ וְלִבִּי בְשָׂרִי אֵת בֵּינָן לְמִשְׁחָה בְלִבִּי תִרְתִּי  
thrthi blbi lms huk biin ath bshri ulbi neg bchkme  
I-explored in-heart-of-me to-attract in-wine » flesh-of-me and-heart-of-me one-leading in-wisdom
- 3 I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what [was] that good for the sons of men, which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life.
- אֲשֶׁר הָאָדָם לְבָנֵי טוֹב זֶה אֵי אַרְאָה אֲשֶׁר עַד בְּסִכְלוֹת וְלֹאֲחֹז  
ulachz bskluth od ash arae ai ze tub lbni eadm ash  
and-to-hold in-silliness until which I-am-seeing where? this good for-sons-of the-human which
- אֲשֶׁר יַעֲשׂוּ חַיִּיהֶם יְמֵי מִסְפָּר הַשָּׁמַיִם תַּחַת יַעֲשׂוּ  
ioshu thchth eshmim msphr imi chiiem  
they-are-doing under the-heavens number-of days-of lives-of-them
- 4 כְּרָמִים לִי נִטְעֵתִי בָתִּים לִי בְנִיתִי מְעַשֵׂי הַגְּדֹלְתִי  
egdlthi moshi bnithi li bthim ntothi li krmim  
I-made-great doings-of-me I-built for-me houses I-planted for-me vineyards
- 4 I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards:
- 5 פְּרִי כָל עֵץ בָּהֶם וְנִטְעֵתִי וּפְרָדְסִים גִּנוֹת לִי עֲשִׂיתִי  
oshithi li gnuth uphrdsim untothi bem otz kl phri  
I-made for-me gardens and-parks and-I-planted in-them tree-of every-of fruit
- 5 I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all [kind of] fruits:
- 6 עֲצִימֵי צֹמַח יַעַר מֵהֶם לְהִשְׁקוֹת מִיַּם בְּרִכּוֹת לִי עֲשִׂיתִי  
oshithi li brkuth mim leshquth mem ior tzumch otzim  
I-made for-me reservoirs-of waters to-irrigate from-them wildwood one-sprouting-of trees
- 6 I made me pools of water, to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees:
- 7 בֶּקֶר מִקְנֵה גַם לִי הָיָה בֵּית וּבְנֵי וּשְׂפָחוֹת עֲבָדִים קִנִּיתִי  
qnithi obdim ushphchuth ubni bith eie li gm mqne bqr  
I-acquired servants and-female-slaves and-sons-of house/hold he-became to-me moreover cattle herd
- 7 I got [me] servants and maidens, and had servants born in my house; also I had great possessions of great and small cattle above all that were in Jerusalem before me:
- בִּירוּשָׁלַם לִפְנֵי שְׁהִיוּ מִכָּל לִי הָיָה הָרְבָה וְצֹאֵן  
lphni birushlm sheiu mkl li eie erbe utzan  
and-flock to-be-much he-became to-me from-all who-they-were before-me in-Jerusalem
- 8 לִי עֲשִׂיתִי וְהַמְדִּינּוֹת מְלָכִים וְסֹגְלָת וְזָהָב כֶּסֶף גַּם לִי כִנְסֵתִי  
knsthi li gm ksph uzeb usglth mlkim uemdinuth oshithi li  
I-collected for-me moreover silver and-gold and-special-of kings and-the-provinces I-made for-me
- 8 I gathered me also silver and gold, and the peculiar treasure of kings and of the provinces: I gat me men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men, [as] musical instruments, and that of all sorts.
- 9 חֲכָמְתִּי אָף בִּירוּשָׁלַם לִפְנֵי שְׁהִיָּה מִכָּל וְהוֹסַפְתִּי וְגֹדְלְתִי  
ugdlthi ueusphtthi mkl sheie lphni birushlm aph chkmtthi  
and-I-grew-great and-I-added from-all who-he-was before-me in-Jerusalem indeed! wisdom-of-me
- 9 So I was great, and increased more than all that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me.
- לִי עָמְדָה  
omde li  
she-stayed to-me
- 10 לִבִּי אֵת מִנְעֵתִי לֹא מֵהֶם אֲצַלְתִּי לֹא עֵינַי שָׁאֲלוּ אֲשֶׁר וְכֹל  
ukl ash shalu oini la atzlthi mem la mnothi ath lbi  
and-all which they-asked eyes-of-me not I-diverted from-them not I-withheld » heart-of-me
- 10 And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.
- חֶלְקִי הָיָה וְזֶה עֲמָלִי מִכָּל שִׂמְחָה לִבִּי כִּי שִׂמְחָה מִכָּל  
mkl shmche ki lbi shmch mkl omli uze eie chlqi  
from-any-of rejoicing that heart-of-me rejoicing from-all-of toil-of-me and-this he-was portion-of-me
- מִכָּל עֲמָלִי  
mkl omli  
from-all-of toil-of-me

- 11 לעשות שעמלתי ובעמל ידי שעשו מעשי בכל אני ופניתי  
 uphnithi ani bkl moshi shoshu idi uboml shomlthi loshuth  
 and-I-faced I in-all-of doings-of-me which-they-did hands-of-me and-in-toil which-I-toiled to-do  
 והנה השמש תחת יתרון ואין רוח ורעות הבל הכל והנה  
 uene ekl ebl urouth ruch uain ithrun thchth eshmsh  
 and-behold! the-all vanity and-grazing-of wind and-there-is-no advantage under the-sun
- 12 האדם מה כי וסכלות והוללות חכמה לראות אני ופניתי  
 uphnithi ani lrauth chkme ueulluth uskluth ki me eadm  
 and-I-faced-about I to-see wisdom and-blustering and-silliness that what? the-human  
 עשוהו כבר אשר את המלך אחרי שיבוא  
 shibua achri emlk ath ashr kbr oshueu  
 who-he-is-coming after the-king » which already they-did-him
- 13 מן האור כיתרון הסכלות מן לחכמה יתרון שיש אני וראיתי  
 uraithi ani shish ithrun lchkme mn eskluth kithrun eaur mn  
 and-I-saw I which-fersooth advantage to-wisdom from the-silliness as-advantage-of the-light from  
 החשך  
 echshk  
 the-darkness
- 14 גם וידעתי הולך בחשך והכסיל בראשו עיניו החכם  
 echkm oiniu brashu ueksil bchshk eulk uidothi gm  
 the-wise-one eyes-of-him in-head-of-him and-the-stupid-one in-darkness going and-I-realized moreover  
 כלם את יקרה אחד שמקרה אני  
 ani shmqre achd iqre ath klm  
 I which-befalling one he-is-befalling » all-of-them
- 15 יקרני אני גם חכיל כמקרה בלבי אני ואמרת  
 uamrthi ani blbi kmqre eksil gm ani iqrni  
 and-I-said I in-heart-of-me as-befalling-of the-stupid-one moreover I he-shall-befall-me  
 הבל זה שגם בלבי ודברתי יותר אז אני חכמתי ולמה  
 ulme chkmthi ani az iuthr udbrthi blbi shgm ze ebl  
 and-to-what? I-was-wise I then profit and-I-spoke in-heart-of-me which-moreover this vanity
- 16 הימים בשכבר לעולם הכסיל עם לחכם זכרון אין כי  
 ki ain zkrun lchk om eksil loulm bshkbr eimim  
 that there-is-no remembrance to-wise-one with the-stupid-one for-eon in-which-already the-days  
 הכסיל עם החכם ימות ואיך נשכח הכל הבאים  
 ebaim ekl nshkch uaik imuth echkm om eksil  
 the-ones-coming the-all he-is-forgotten and-how! he-is-dying the-wise-one with the-stupid-one
- 17 הכל כי השמש תחת שנעשה המעשה עלי רע כי החיים את ושנאתי  
 ushnathi ath echiiim ki ro oli emoshe shnoshe thchth eshmsh ki ekl  
 and-I-hated » the-lives that evil on-me the-deed which-he-was-done under the-sun that the-all  
 רוח ורעות הבל  
 ebl urouth ruch  
 vanity and-grazing-of wind
- 18 לאדם שאניחנו השמש תחת עמל שאני עמלי כל את אני ושנאתי  
 ushnathi ani ath kl omli shani oml thchth eshmsh shanichnu ladm  
 and-I-hated I » all-of toil-of-me which-I toiling under the-sun which-I-shall-leave-him to-human  
 אחר שיהיה  
 shieie achri  
 who-he-shall-be after-me
- 19 עמלי בכל וישלט סכל או יהיה החכם יודע ומי  
 umi iudo echkm ieie au skl uisht bkl omli  
 and-who? knowing wise-one? he-shall-be or silly-one and-he-shall-have-authority in-all-of toil-of-me  
 הבל זה גם השמש תחת ושחכמתי שעמלתי  
 shomlthi ushchkmtthi thchth eshmsh gm ze ebl  
 which-I-toiled and-which-I-was-wise under the-sun moreover this vanity
- 11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all [was] vanity and vexation of spirit, and [there was] no profit under the sun.
- 12 . And I turned myself to behold wisdom, and madness, and folly: for what [can] the man [do] that cometh after the king? [even] that which hath been already done.
- 13 Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness.
- 14 The wise man's eyes [are] in his head; but the fool walketh in darkness: and I myself perceived also that one event happeneth to them all.
- 15 Then said I in my heart, As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me; and why was I then more wise? Then I said in my heart, that this also [is] vanity.
- 16 For [there is] no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool for ever; seeing that which now [is] in the days to come shall all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise [man]? as the fool.
- 17 . Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun [is] grievous unto me: for all [is] vanity and vexation of spirit.
- 18 Yea, I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me.
- 19 And who knoweth whether he shall be a wise [man] or a fool? yet shall he have rule over all my labour wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have shewed myself wise under the sun. This [is] also vanity.

- 20 וסבותי וליאש אני לבי את כל על שעמלתי העמל תחת השמש תחת  
 usbuti ani liash ath lbi ol kl eoml shomlthi thchth eshmsh  
 and-I-turned-about I to-despair » heart-of-me over all-of the-toil which-I-toiled under the-sun
- 21 כי יש אדם שעמלו בחכמה ובדעת ובכשרון ולאדם שלא  
 ki ish adm shomlu bchkme ubdoth ubkshrun uladm shla  
 that forsooth human which-toil-of-him in-wisdom and-in-knowledge and-in-success and-to-human who-not  
 עמל רבה ורעה הבל זה גם חלקן יתננו בו עמל  
 oml rbe uroe ebl ze gm chlqu ithnnu bu oml  
 he-toiled in-him he-shall-give-him portion-of-him moreover this vanity and-evil much
- 22 כי מה היה לאדם בכל עמלו ובדעתו לבו שהוא עמל  
 ki me eue ladm bkl omlu ubroiun lbu sheua oml  
 that what ? becoming to-human in-all-of toil-of-him and-in-grazing-of heart-of-him which-he toiling  
 תחת השמש תחת  
 thchth eshmsh  
 under the-sun
- 23 כי כל ימיו מכאבים וכעס ענינו גם בלילה לא שכב  
 ki kl imiu mkabim ukos oninu gm blile la shkb  
 that all-of days-of-him pains and-vexation experience-of-him moreover in-night not he-lies-down  
 לבו הוא הבל זה גם לבו  
 lbu gm ze ebl eua  
 heart-of-him moreover this vanity he
- 24 אין טוב נפשו את והראה ושתה שיאכל באדם טוב אין  
 ain tub badm shiakl ushthe uerae ath nphshu tub  
 there-is-no better in-human which-he-is-eating and-he-drinks and-he-causes-to-see » soul-of-him good  
 בעמלו היא האלהים מיד כי אני ראיתי זה גם  
 bomlu gm ze raithi ani ki mid ealeim eia  
 in-toil-of-him moreover this I-see I that from-hand-of the-Elohim she
- 25 כי מי יאכל ומי יחוש חוץ ממני  
 ki mi iakl umi ichush chutz mmni  
 that who ? he-shall-eat and-who ? he-shall-hurry outside from-him (LXX)
- 26 כי לאדם שטוב לפניו נתן חכמה ודעת ושמחה  
 ki ladm shtub lphniu nthn chkme udoth ushmche  
 that to-human who-being-good before-him he-gives wisdom and-knowledge and-rejoicing  
 ולחוטא ולחוטא נתן ענין לאסוף ולכנוס לתת לטוב לפני  
 ulchuta nthn onin lasuph ulknus lthth ltub lphni  
 and-to-one-sinning he-gives experience to-gather and-to-collect to-give to-one-being-good before  
 גם האלהים רוח ורעות הבל זה רוח  
 ealeim gm ze ebl urouth ruch  
 the-Elohim moreover this vanity and-grazing-of wind

<sup>20</sup> Therefore I went about to cause my heart to despair of all the labour which I took under the sun.

<sup>21</sup> For there is a man whose labour [is] in wisdom, and in knowledge, and in equity; yet to a man that hath not laboured therein shall he leave it [for] his portion. This also [is] vanity and a great evil.

<sup>22</sup> For what hath man of all his labour, and of the vexation of his heart, wherein he hath laboured under the sun?

<sup>23</sup> For all his days [are] sorrows, and his travail grief; yea, his heart taketh not rest in the night. This is also vanity.

<sup>24</sup> [There is] nothing better for a man, [than] that he should eat and drink, and [that] he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it [was] from the hand of God.

<sup>25</sup> For who can eat, or who else can hasten [hereunto], more than I?

<sup>26</sup> For [God] giveth to a man that [is] good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to [him that is] good before God. This also [is] vanity and vexation of spirit.