

cometh the kol kesil (the voice of the fool).

|4 (5:3)| When thou vowest a neder unto Elohim, defer not to pay it; for Hashem hath no pleasure in kesilim; pay that which thou hast vowed.

|5 (5:4)| Better it is that thou shouldest not make a neder, than that thou shouldest vow and not fulfill the neder.

|6 (5:5)| Suffer not thy mouth to lead thy basar into chet (sin); neither say thou before the Malach [of G-d], that it was a mistake. Wherefore should HaElohim be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?

|7 (5:6)| For in the multitude of chalomot and many dvarim there are also divers havalim [see 1:2]; but fear thou HaElohim.

|8 (5:7)| If thou seest the oppression of the poor, and violent perverting of mishpat and tzedek in a province, marvel not at the matter; for he that is higher watches over him that is high; and there be higher than they.

|9 (5:8)| Moreover the profit of eretz is for all; Melech himself is served by the sadeh.

|10 (5:9)| He that loveth kesef shall never have enough kesef; nor shall he that loveth abundance have enough increase; this also is hevel.

|11 (5:10)| When hatovah (good things) increase, they are increased that consume them; and what kishron (useful result) is there to the ba'al (owner) thereof, except as an onlooker?

|12 (5:11)| The sleep of the oved (working man) is sweet, whether he eat little or much; but the abundance of the oisher (rich man) will not permit him to sleep.

|13 (5:12)| There is a grievous ra'ah which I have seen under the shemesh; osher (riches)

hoarded by the ba'al thereof to his hurt;

|14 (5:13)| The same osher (riches) perish by an evil event and he begetteth a ben; thus this one hath nothing in his hand.

|15 (5:14)| As he came forth of the womb of his Em (mother), arom (naked) shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his amal (labor), which he may carry away in his hand.

|16 (5:15)| And this also is a grievous evil, that in every respect as he came, just so shall he go; and what profit hath he that hath toiled for the ruach (wind)?

|17 (5:16)| All his yamim also he eateth in choshech, and he hath much ka'as (grief, vexation) and sickness and anger.

|18 (5:17)| Hinei I have seen it is tov and yafeh for one to eat and to drink, and to find tovah in all his amal (labor) that he toils under the shemesh all the few days of his life, which HaElohim giveth him; for it is his chelek.

|19 (5:18)| Also kol ha'adam to whom HaElohim hath given osher and possessions, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his chelek, and to rejoice in his amal; this is the gift of Elohim.

|20 (5:19)| For he shall not much remember the days of his life; because HaElohim keeps him occupied with simchat libbo (gladness of his heart).

6 There is a ra'ah which I have seen under the shemesh, and it is a great weight upon the adam;

|2| An ish to whom HaElohim hath given osher (riches), nekhasim (possessions), and kavod (honor), so that he wanteth

nothing for his nefesh of all that he desireth, yet

HaElohim giveth him not shlitah (empowerment) to have enjoyment thereof, but an ish nochri (stranger) hath the enjoyment thereof; this is hevel, and it is a grievous ill.

|3| If an ish beget a hundredfold, and live shanim rabbot, so that rav be the yamim of his shanim, and his nefesh be not filled with hatovah, and also that he have no kevarah (grave); I say, that a nefel (stillborn) is better than he.

|4| For he cometh in with hevel, and departeth in choshech, and shmo shall be shrouded with choshech.

|5| Moreover though he hath not seen the shemesh, nor known any thing, this hath more nakhat (rest, quietness) than the other.

|6| Yea, though he live an elef shanim twice over, yet hath he seen no tovah. Do not all go to mekom echad?

|7| All the amal (labor) of haAdam is for his mouth, and yet the nefesh is not satisfied.

|8| For what hath the chacham more than the kesil? What hath the poor man, who has da'as of how to conduct himself before the living?

|9| Better what the eynayim see than the roving of the nefesh; this also is hevel and chasing after ruach.

|10| That which is, its shem hath already been named, and it is known what adam shall be; neither may he contend with what is stronger than he.

|11| Seeing there be many things that increase hevel, what profit is there for adam?

|12| For who has da'as what is tov for adam in this life, all the few days of his chayei hevel which he spendeth as a shadow? For who can