

¹To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:²A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;³A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;⁴A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;⁵A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;⁶A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;⁷A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;⁸A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.⁹What profit hath he that worketh in that wherein he laboureth?¹⁰I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it.¹¹He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.¹²I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life.¹³And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.¹⁴I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.¹⁵That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.¹⁶And moreover I saw under the sun the place of judgment, that wickedness was there; and the place of

¹لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ رَّمَانٌ، وَلِكُلِّ أَمْرٍ تَحْتَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَقْتُ. ²لِلْوِلَادَةِ وَقْتُ وَلِلْمَوْتِ وَقْتُ. لِلغَرْسِ وَقْتُ وَلِلْقَلْعِ الْمَغْرُوسِ وَقْتُ. لِلْقَتْلِ وَقْتُ وَلِلشِّقَاءِ وَقْتُ. لِلْهَذْمِ وَقْتُ وَلِلنَّبَاتِ وَقْتُ. لِلْبُكَاءِ وَقْتُ وَلِلصَّحْكِ وَقْتُ. لِلنُّوحِ وَقْتُ وَلِلرَّقْصِ وَقْتُ. لِلتَّفْرِيقِ الْجَارَةِ وَقْتُ وَلِجَمْعِ الْجَارَةِ وَقْتُ. لِلْمُعَانَقَةِ وَقْتُ وَلِلانْفِصَالِ عَنِ الْمُعَانَقَةِ وَقْتُ. لِلْكَسْبِ وَقْتُ وَلِلخَسَارَةِ وَقْتُ. لِلصَّيَاةِ وَقْتُ وَلِلطَّرْحِ وَقْتُ. لِلتَّمْرِيقِ وَقْتُ وَلِلخَبْطِ وَقْتُ. لِلشُّكُوفِ وَقْتُ وَلِلتَّكْلِمِ وَقْتُ. لِلْحُبِّ وَقْتُ وَلِلبُغْضَةِ وَقْتُ. لِلحَرْبِ وَقْتُ وَلِلصُّلْحِ وَقْتُ. قَائِي مَنَفَعَةٍ لِمَنْ يَتَعَبُ مِمَّا يَتَعَبُ بِهِ. ¹⁰قَدْ رَأَيْتُ الشَّعْلَ الَّذِي أَعْطَاهُ اللَّهُ بَنِي الْبَشَرِ لِيَسْتَعْمِلُوا بِهِ. ¹¹صَنَعَ الْكُلَّ حَسَنًا فِي وَقْتِهِ، وَأَيْضًا جَعَلَ الْإِبْدِيَّةَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ، الَّتِي بِهَا لَا يُذْرِكُ الْإِنْسَانُ الْعَمَلَ الَّذِي يَعْمَلُهُ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْبِدَايَةِ إِلَى النِّهَايَةِ. ¹²عَرَفْتُ أَنَّهُ لَيْسَ لَهُمْ خَيْرٌ إِلَّا أَنْ يَفْرَحُوا وَيَفْعَلُوا خَيْرًا فِي حَيَاتِهِمْ. ¹³وَأَيْضًا أَنْ يَأْكُلَ كُلُّ إِنْسَانٍ وَيَشْرَبَ وَيَبْرَى خَيْرًا مِنْ كُلِّ تَعْيٍ، فَهُوَ عَطِيَّةُ اللَّهِ. ¹⁴قَدْ عَرَفْتُ أَنَّ كُلَّ مَا يَعْمَلُهُ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ يَكُونُ إِلَى الْإَبَدِ. لَا شَيْءَ يُزَادُ عَلَيْهِ، وَلَا شَيْءٌ يَنْقُصُ مِنْهُ، وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عَمِلَهُ حَتَّى يَخَافُوا أَمَامَهُ. ¹⁵مَا كَانَ فِيمَنْ أَلْقَاهُ هُوَ، وَمَا يَكُونُ فِيمَنْ أَلْقَاهُ قَدْ كَانَ. وَاللَّهُ يَطْلُبُ مَا قَدْ مَضَى. ¹⁶وَأَيْضًا رَأَيْتُ تَحْتَ الشَّمْسِ، مَوْضِعَ الْحَقِّ هُنَاكَ الطَّلِيمُ، وَمَوْضِعَ الْعَدْلِ هُنَاكَ الْجَوْرُ. ¹⁷فَقُلْتُ فِي قَلْبِي، اللَّهُ يَدِينُ الصِّدِّيقَ وَالسَّيِّئَ. لِأَنَّ لِكُلِّ أَمْرٍ وَلِكُلِّ عَمَلٍ وَقْتًُا هُنَاكَ. ¹⁸قُلْتُ فِي قَلْبِي، مِنْ جِهَةِ أُمُورِ بَنِي الْبَشَرِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَمْتَحِنُهُمْ لِيُرِيَهُمْ أَنَّهُ كَمَا الْبَهِيمَةِ هَكَذَا هُمْ. ¹⁹لَأَنَّ مَا يَخْدُثُ لِبَنِي الْبَشَرِ يَخْدُثُ لِلْبَهِيمَةِ، وَحَادِثَتُهُ وَاحِدَةٌ لَهُمْ. مَوْتُ هَذَا كَمَوْتُ ذَلِكَ، وَتَسْمَةُ وَاحِدَةٌ لِكُلِّ. فَلَيْسَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ مَزِيَّةٌ عَلَى الْبَهِيمَةِ، لِأَنَّ كِلَيْهِمَا بَاطِلٌ. ²⁰يَذْهَبُ كِلَاهُمَا إِلَى مَكَانٍ وَاحِدٍ. كَانَ كِلَاهُمَا مِنَ التُّرَابِ، وَإِلَى التُّرَابِ يَعُودُ كِلَاهُمَا. ²¹مَنْ يَعْلَمُ رُوحَ بَنِي الْبَشَرِ هَلْ هِيَ تَصْعَدُ إِلَى قُوقٍ، وَرُوحَ الْبَهِيمَةِ هَلْ هِيَ تَنْزِلُ إِلَى أَسْفَلٍ، إِلَى الْأَرْضِ. ²²قَرَأْتُ أَنَّهُ لَا شَيْءَ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَنْ يَفْرَحَ الْإِنْسَانُ بِأَعْمَالِهِ، لِأَنَّ ذَلِكَ تَصِيبُهُ. لِأَنَّهُ مَنْ يَأْتِي بِهِ لِيَرَى مَا سَيَكُونُ بَعْدَهُ.

righteousness, that iniquity was there.¹⁷ I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work.¹⁸ I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts.¹⁹ For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity.²⁰ All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.²¹ Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?²² Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?