

¹لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ زَمَانٌ، وَلِكُلِّ أَمْرٍ تَحْتَ السَّمَاوَاتِ
وَقْتُ. ²لِلْوِلَادَةِ وَقْتُ وَلِلْمَوْتِ وَقْتُ. لِلْغَرَسِ وَقْتُ وَلِقْلَعِ
الْمَعْرُوسِ وَقْتُ. ³لِلْقَيْلِ وَقْتُ وَلِلشِّقَاءِ وَقْتُ. لِلْهَدَمِ
وَقْتُ وَلِلْبِنَاءِ وَقْتُ. ⁴لِلنَّكَاةِ وَقْتُ وَلِلصَّخَرِ وَقْتُ. لِلتَّوْحِ
وَقْتُ وَلِلرَّقْصِ وَقْتُ. ⁵لِتَفْرِيقِ الْحِجَارَةِ وَقْتُ وَلِجَمْعِ
الْحِجَارَةِ وَقْتُ. لِلْمُعَاتَقَةِ وَقْتُ وَلِلانْفِصَالِ عَنِ الْمُعَاتَقَةِ
وَقْتُ. ⁶لِلْكَسْبِ وَقْتُ وَلِلخَسَارَةِ وَقْتُ. لِلصَّيَاةِ وَقْتُ
وَلِلطَّرْحِ وَقْتُ. ⁷لِلتَّمْزِيقِ وَقْتُ وَلِلتَّخْيِيطِ وَقْتُ. لِلشُّكُوتِ
وَقْتُ وَلِلتَّكَلُّمِ وَقْتُ. ⁸لِلْحُبِّ وَقْتُ وَلِلنُّعْصَةِ وَقْتُ. لِلحَرْبِ
وَقْتُ وَلِلصُّلْحِ وَقْتُ. ⁹فَأَيُّ مَنَفْعَةٍ لِمَنْ يَتَعَبُ مِمَّا يَتَعَبُ
بِهِ. ¹⁰قَدْ رَأَيْتُ الشَّعْلَ الَّذِي أُعْطَاهُ اللَّهُ بَنِي الْبَشَرِ
لِيَسْتَعْمِلُوا بِهِ. ¹¹صَنَعَ الْكُلَّ حَسَنًا فِي وَقْتِهِ، وَأَيْضًا جَعَلَ
الْأَبِيدَةَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ، الَّتِي بَلَاهَا لَا بُدَّكَ الْإِنْسَانُ الْعَمَلِ
الَّذِي يَعْمَلُهُ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْبِدَايَةِ إِلَى الْنَهَايَةِ. ¹²عَرَفْتُ أَنَّهُ
لَيْسَ لَهُمْ خَيْرٌ إِلَّا أَنْ يَفْرَحُوا وَيَفْعَلُوا خَيْرًا فِي
حَيَاتِهِمْ. ¹³وَأَيْضًا أَنْ يَأْكُلَ كُلُّ إِنْسَانٍ وَيَتَشَرَّبَ وَيَبْرِي خَيْرًا
مِنْ كُلِّ تَعْيِيهِ، فَهُوَ عَطِيَّةُ اللَّهِ. ¹⁴قَدْ عَرَفْتُ أَنَّ كُلَّ مَا
يَعْمَلُهُ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ يَكُونُ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ. لَا شَيْءَ يُرَآءُ عَلَيْهِ، وَلَا
شَيْءَ يُنْقَضُ مِنْهُ، وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عَمَلُهُ حَتَّى يَخَافُوا أَمَامَهُ. ¹⁵مَا
كَانَ قِمَمِ الْقَدَمِ هُوَ. وَمَا يَكُونُ قِمَمِ الْقَدَمِ قَدْ كَانَ.
وَاللَّهُ يَطْلُبُ مَا قَدْ مَضَى. ¹⁶وَأَيْضًا رَأَيْتُ تَحْتَ الشَّمْسِ،
مَوْضِعَ الْحَقِّ هُنَاكَ الطُّلْمُ، وَمَوْضِعَ الْعَدْلِ هُنَاكَ
الْجَوْرُ. ¹⁷فَقُلْتُ فِي قَلْبِي، اللَّهُ يَذِيبُ الصِّدِّيقَ وَالشَّرِيرَ.
لَأَنَّ لِكُلِّ أَمْرٍ وَلِكُلِّ عَمَلٍ وَقْتًا هُنَاكَ. ¹⁸قُلْتُ فِي قَلْبِي،
مِنْ جِهَةِ أُمُورِ بَنِي الْبَشَرِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَمْتَحِنُهُمْ لِيُرَبِّهَهُمْ أَنَّهُ
كَمَا الْبَهِيمَةَ هَكَذَا هُمْ. ¹⁹لَأَنَّ مَا يَخْدُثُ لِبَنِي الْبَشَرِ يَخْدُثُ
لِلْبَهِيمَةِ، وَخَادِيَّتُهُ وَاجِدَةٌ لَهُمْ. مَوْتُ هَذَا كَمَوْتِ ذَلِكَ،
وَنَسَمَةٌ وَاجِدَةٌ لِلْكُلِّ. فَلَيْسَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ مَرْبَّةٌ عَلَى الْبَهِيمَةِ،
لَأَنَّ كِلَيْهِمَا بَاطِلٌ. ²⁰يَذْهَبُ كِلَاهُمَا إِلَى مَكَانٍ وَاحِدٍ. كَانَ
كِلاَهُمَا مِنَ التُّرَابِ، وَإِلَى التُّرَابِ يَعُودُ كِلَاهُمَا. ²¹مَنْ يَعْلَمُ
رُوحَ بَنِي الْبَشَرِ هَلْ هِيَ تَصْعَدُ إِلَى قُوَى، وَرُوحَ الْبَهِيمَةِ
هَلْ هِيَ تَنْزِلُ إِلَى أَسْفَلٍ، إِلَى الْأَرْضِ. ²²فَرَأَيْتُ أَنَّهُ لَا
شَيْءَ خَيْرٍ مِنْ أَنْ يَفْرَحَ الْإِنْسَانُ بِأَعْمَالِهِ، لَأَنَّ ذَلِكَ
نَصِيبُهُ. لَأَنَّهُ مَنْ يَأْتِي بِهِ لِيَرَى مَا سَيَكُونُ بَعْدَهُ.

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

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?