

LEAVE A LEGACY OF LOVE

ALL THINGS ARE VANITY!

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*“Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher.*

*“Vanity of vanities!*

*All [that is done without God’s guidance]  
is vanity [futile, meaningless—a wisp of smoke,  
a vapor that vanishes, merely chasing the wind].”*

Ecclesiastes 1:2 AMP

In Ecclesiastes, King Solomon, “son of David”, is reflecting on the ultimate futility and temporal value of human wisdom and endeavors based upon them. This may seem like a downer of a book in the Sacred Scriptures, but it reminds us of the fleeting quality of human actions that are not part of God’s plan and Will.

“I, the Preacher, have been king over Israel in Jerusalem.  
And I set my mind to seek and explore by [man’s] wisdom  
all [human activity] that has been done under heaven.

It is a miserable business *and* a burdensome task  
which God has given the sons of men  
with which to be busy *and* distressed.

I have seen all the works  
which have been done under the sun,  
and behold, all is vanity,  
a futile grasping *and* chasing after the wind.”

Ecclesiastes 1:12-14

Another son of David, Messiah Jesus Christ Yeshua, brings us the answer.

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Heavenly Father....

You teach us and remind us in Your Word that the things of this world are deceptive in their very nature because they are not of Your Heart; because they are not of Your Ways, Your Will and Your Eternity. They are fleeting. Your ways are eternal. Your Truth is eternal. Made in Your image, we are called to reject the deceptive weight and import of things of the flesh mind, ego and body in this temporal world.

Jesus teaches us to seek things of eternal life, that we may share in eternal life with Him and with You in Your Heavenly Abode. Dear Father God, there is nothing I want more than to be in eternity with You and Christ Jesus. All things are truly vanity in comparison to eternal life with You.

I take hold of Hebrews 11:16, *“But now they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one.”* This does not mean I am not honoring and appreciative of the life You have given me here on earth. It means that I recognize that the ultimate goal and purpose of my life here is to come into union with You in *“a better homeland.”* And that all that I shall do in this life is to prepare me to be in fellowship with You and Christ Jesus in Your heavenly home.

Truly in this regard, I recognize that the most important legacy I could leave on this earth is a legacy of love. And your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, gave us the roadmap and the divine template for this legacy of love. I ask You to bear witness to my commitment to live in preparation for eternal life, thereby leaving a legacy of love, Your love, on this earth; as an inspiration and roadmap for your other children to return home to You.

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### ***I Repent***

- ◆ Heavenly Father, I repent for all the times and ways I lost my focus on You, got swept up in the activities, demands and desires of this world, and forgot or neglected to keep You and Your Will for my life as the centerpiece and compass.
- ◆ I repent for all the times and ways I was not kind, compassionate, considerate, forgiving, understanding of other people, of other people's inner state; allowing my own agenda, filters, prejudices and resentments to cloud my heart and keep me from loving as Jesus loves; as He called me to love others.
- ◆ I repent for all the vanities I have held and pursued — material and financial vanities, ego and status vanities, career and vocational vanities, even spiritual vanities.

### ***Love Leads Me to Eternal Life***

- ◆ Lord God Heavenly Father, as Divine Love Incarnate, Jesus demonstrated the qualities and virtues of True Love, a love that comes from your own heart, a love that serves others as an expression of the love I have for You and Your Son Jesus Yeshua.
- ◆ John 3:16 shares this beautiful promise: *“For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him **should not perish but have eternal life.**”*
- ◆ This passage teaches me that sacrificial love, unselfish love, is a pathway to eternal life. This sacrificial and unselfish love are a part of a lasting legacy of love; that lives on to encourage, uplift, heal and bless others — even those we have never known and will never personally know us.

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- ◆ Because when I can love, when I choose to love and commit to love as Jesus does, He works through me to touch others; as 1 John 4:4 describes: *“He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”* Jesus in me reaches out to love others.
- ◆ Heavenly Father, I commit to choosing every day to love as Christ Jesus does. He sees through people’s flaws and annoyances. He sees their hearts as a Father sees his vulnerable and imperfect child. He chooses to love them as Your child. I commit to leaving behind my own ego to love others as You love them, as Jesus loves them. Help me Father God, to do so.
- ◆ 2 Timothy 2:11-12 confirms that as I emulate Jesus, so may I join him in eternal life: *“If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him.”*
- ◆ Titus 1:2 speaks of this eternal life: *“In the hope of eternal life that God, who does not lie, promised before time began.”* “Promised before time began” is so profound and tells me that it has always been Your plan that I should share in eternal life with You and Your Son.
- ◆ Help me Father God, to order my life and my priorities, to leave a legacy of love on the way to eternal life with You and Christ Jesus. Help me to deny myself, and my own desires and insistences. Help me to empty of my sins, flaws and transgressions through self-examination, repentance and atonement. Reveal to me atonement that fully reconciles me to Your Heart.

I Shall Work For Food That Endures

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Jesus teaches us to focus on what truly matters for eternal life, what brings an enduring legacy of Love, Divine Love.

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- ◆ In John 6:27 Jesus exhorts: “*Do not work for the food that perishes but for **the food that endures to eternal life**, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.*” Lord God, please give me this food of eternal life. Help me to always eat of it worthily, with a clean heart.
- ◆ For Your Word in Matthew 5:8 declares: “*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*” I want to see You Abba! I want to see Your Son, Lord Jesus! Make of me a clean, pure heart. Remove the bramble, the sticks and stones, the pebbles and debris. In Jesus’ name, remove them now.

#### ***The Agency of Love: The Holy Spirit***

- ◆ Dear Father God, when the Holy Spirit descended on the Disciples at Pentecost, they were of “one accord.” They were transformed. Their hearts were transformed. They went from infighting and jostling for positions, renouncing their association with Christ Jesus, to a supernatural boldness and courage, united in Holy Love.
- ◆ Lord God Abba, pour out Your Holy Spirit into my heart, as the agency for your Love, to be the Holy Fire of Your Love that fills and becomes my own heart. This is not a flawed or codependent or lustful human love; but a Holy Love that Your Son lived and demonstrated as my spiritual destiny.
- ◆ It is a bold and courageous love. It is an unselfish love. It is a compassionate and forgiving love.

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YOUR Love

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your version of love is so beyond what we humans have come to believe and know is love; the sadly limited kind of love that we give in this fallen world. But YOUR love IS available for us to possess.
- ◆ It is possessing the Heart of God in loving others. It is an unselfish love. ***It is loving the way that You love***, an unconditional and pure love with no personal agendas.
- ◆ It is so important that Your Word says it is the supreme of all virtues. 1 Corinthians 13:13 proclaims: “*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*” This surely confirms that a legacy of love is the supreme legacy a person can leave.
- ◆ This love contains a radical kindness. Kindness is such an important godly virtue that the Hebrew language has a special word for it, *chesed*, lovingkindness. Help me, Heavenly Father, to live in this virtue of *chesed*, lovingkindness. For it is very hard for the ego to co-exist with lovingkindness.
- ◆ Jesus forgave alot of bad behavior and even cruelties. Yoke me with His heart Heavenly Father, as I relinquish and empty out all that is not of You and for You in my own heart.
- ◆ Help me Abba Father, to live in and leave a legacy of Your love, through my actions, deeds, words and way of being. Let it be a demonstrated legacy of the gift of Your Son Jesus Christ, given for all of humanity.

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### SEALING PRAYER: John 15:4-13

*“Remain in me, as I also remain in you.*

*No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine.*

*Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

*“I am the vine; you are the branches.*

*If you remain in me and I in you,*

*you will bear much fruit;*

*apart from me you can do nothing.*

*If you do not remain in me,*

*you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers;*

*such branches are picked up,*

*thrown into the fire and burned.*

*If you remain in me and my words remain in you,*

*ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*

*This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit,*

*showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

*“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.*

*Now remain in my love.*

*If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love,*

*just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.*

*I have told you this so that my joy may be in you*

*and that your joy may be complete.*

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.*

*Greater love has no one than this:*

*to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”*