

THE "ENJOYMENT" PASSAGES IN QOHELET
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A. Synopsis:

1. I have seen
 - a) 2 <lacking>
 - b) 3a YFDA85(:T.IY K.I91Y?
 - c) 3b W:/RF)I81YTIY K.I74Y
 - d) 5 HIN."62H):A\$ER-RF)I74YTIY)F81NIY
 - e) 8 W:/\$IB.A70X:T.I75Y):ANIY03)ET-HA/&.IM:XF80H):A\$E63R
2. There is no good except/it is good
 The use of B to designate the recipient is remarkable; cf. 6:12 and especially 8:15 for the (usual) L. B)DM in 8:9 is in the idiom, "rule OVER a man."
 - a) 2)"75YN-+O70WB B.F/)FDFM03
 - b) 3a)"71YN +O73WB B./F92M
 - c) 3b)"71YN +OWB03
 - d) 5 +O74WB):A\$ER-YFPE74H
 - e) 8)"75YN-+O70WB LF75/)FDFM03 T.A74XAT HA/\$.E80ME\$?
3. Pleasures
 - a) Eat, Drink, See good
 - 1) 2 \$E/Y.O)KA74L W:/\$FTF80H
W:/HER:)F94H)ET-NAP:\$/O91W +O73WB
 - 2) 3a W:/GA70M K.FL-HF/)FDFM03 \$E/Y.O)KA74L W:/\$FTF80H
W:/RF)F71H +O73WB
 - 3) 3b <lacking>
 - 4) 5 LE75/)EKOWL-14W:/LI/\$:T.OWT
W:/LI/R:)O63WT? +OWBF61H
 - 5) 8 K.I91Y)IM- LE/):EKO71WL W:/LI/\$:T.O73WT
 - b) Rejoice, Do good
 - 1) 2 <lacking>
 - 2) 3a K.I74Y)IM-LI/&:MO80WXA W:/LA/(:A&O71WT +O73WB
 - 3) 3b M"/):A\$E63R YI&:MA70X? HF/)FDFM03
 - 4) 5 K.I94Y HF/):ELOHI91YM MA(:ANE73H B.:/&IM:XA71T
LIB./O75W00?
 - 5) 8 W:/LI/&:MO92WXA
4. Context
 - a) In life
 - 1) 2 <lacking>
 - 2) 3a B.:/XAY.F75Y/W00?
 - 3) 3b <lacking>
 - 4) 5 MIS:P.A94R Y:M"Y-XAY./F91W):A\$ER-?NF75TAN-L/O71W
HF/):ELOHI73YM
 - 5) 8 Y:M"71Y XAY.F91Y/W?):A\$ER-NF75TAN L/O71W HF-):ELOHI73YM
T.A71XAT HA/\$.F75ME\$00?
 - b) In labors
 Always B, unlike 2:10, which is MN. One must find satisfaction *in the midst of work*; one can never expect to find it *after*.
 - 1) 2 B.A/ (:AMFL/O92W?
 - 2) 3a B.:/KFL-(:AMFL/O92W
 - 3) 3b B.:75/ MA(:A&F80Y/W
 - 4) 5 B.:/KFL-(:AMFL/O74W05

- \$E/Y.A(:AMO74L T.A75XAT-HA/\$.E81ME\$
- 5) 8 W:/H62W.) YIL:W/E74N.W. BA/ (:AMFL/O81W
5. Reason one: It is his right.
- a) It is God's gift.
- 1) 2 G.AM-ZOH03 RF)I74YTIY)F80NIY K.I91Y MI/Y.A71D
HF/):ELOHI73YM HI75Y)00?
- 2) 3a MAT.A71T?):ELOHI73YM HI75Y)00
- 3) 3b <lacking>
- 4) 5 G.A74M K.F75L-HF/)FDF83M):A\$E74R NF75TAN-L/O74W?
HF/):ELOHIYM04 (O63\$ER W./N:KFSI61YM W:/HI\$:LIY+/O63W
LE/):EKO70L MI/M./E63N.W.03 W:/LF/&"74)T)ET-XEL:Q/O80W?
W:/LI/&:MO73XA B.A/(:AMFL/O92W ZO85H MAT.A71T):ELOHI73YM
HI75Y)00 (includes restatement of eating, drinking, portion)
- 5) 8 <lacking>
- b) It is his portion.
- 1) 2 <lacking>
- 2) 3a <lacking>
- 3) 3b K.IY-H73W.) XEL:Q/O92W
- 4) 5 K.IY-H71W.) XEL:Q/O75W00
- 5) 8 <lacking>
6. Can't tell what comes next.
- a) 2 <lacking>
- b) 3a <lacking>
- c) 3b K.I74Y? MI74Y Y:BIY)/E63N.W.03 LI/R:)O80WT B.:/ME73H
\$E/YIH:YE71H)AX:ARF75Y/W00?
- d) 5 10K.IY LO74) HAR:B."80H YIZ:K.O73R)ET-?Y:M"74Y XAY.F92Y/W
- e) 8 <lacking>

B. 2:24-26

Parse as two distinct sentences.

1. First: 24)"75YN-+O70WB B.F/)FDFM03
2. Second:
- a) \$E/Y.O)KA74L W:/\$FTF80H W:/HER:)F94H)ET-NAP:\$/O91W +O73WB
- b) B.A/(:AMFL/O92W?
- c) G.AM-ZOH03 RF)I74YTIY)F80NIY K.I91Y MI/Y.A71D
HF/):ELOHI73YM HI75Y)00?
3. 25 K.I74Y MI71Y YO)KA91L W./MI71Y YFX73W.\$ X71W.C
MI/M./E75N.IY00?
- 26 K.I70Y L:/)FDFM03 \$E/+.O74WB L:/PFNF80Y/W NFTA91N
XFK:MF71H W:/DA73(AT W:/&IM:XF92H W:/LA/XOW+E)04? NFTA63N
(IN:YF61N LE/):ESO74WP W:/LI/K:NO81WS LF/T"T03 L:/+OWB03
LI/P:N"74Y HF75/):ELOHI80YM G.AM-ZE71H? HE73BEL W./R:(71W.T
R95W.XA00?

C. 3:12-13

Two distinct sentences; the second has the form I advocate in 2:24-26.

1. 12 YFDA85(:T.IY K.I91Y?
2. First:
- a))"71YN +O73WB B./F92M
- b) K.I74Y)IM-LI/&:MO80WXA W:/LA/(:A&O71WT +O73WB
- c) B.:/XAY.F75Y/W00?
3. Second:
- a) 13 W:/GA70M K.FL-HF/)FDFM03 \$E/Y.O)KA74L W:/\$FTF80H

W:/RF)F71H +O73WB
b) B.:/KFL-(:AMFL/O92W
c) MAT.A71T?):ELOHI73YM HI75Y)00

D. 3:22

1. 22 W:/RF)I81YTIY K.I74Y
2.)"71YN +OWB03
3. M"/):A\$E63R YI&:MA70X? HF/)FDFM03
4. B.:75/MA(:A&F80Y/W
5. K.IY-H73W.) XEL:Q/O92W
6. K.I74Y? MI74Y Y:BIY)/E63N.W.03 LI/R:)O80WT B.:/ME73H
\$E/YIH:YE71H)AX:ARF75Y/W00?

E. 5:18-20

This one echoes the central theme twice.

1. 17 HIN."62H):A\$ER-RF)I74YTIY)F81NIY
2. First cycle:
a) +O74WB):A\$ER-YFPE74H
b) LE75/)EKOWL-14W:/LI/\$:T.OWT W:/LI/R:)O63WT? +OWBF61H
c) B.:/KFL-(:AMFL/O74W05 \$E/Y.A(:AMO74L T.A75XAT-HA/\$.E81ME\$
d) MIS:P.A94R Y:M"Y-XAY./F91W):A\$ER-?NF75TAN-L/O71W
HF/):ELOHI73YM
e) K.IY-H71W.) XEL:Q/O75W00
3. Second cycle:
a) 18 G.A74M K.F75L-HF/)FDF83M):A\$E74R NF75TAN-L/O74W?
HF/):ELOHIYM04 (O63\$ER W./N:KFSI61YM W:/HI\$:LIY+/O63W
LE/):EKO70L MI/M./E63N.W.03 W:/LF/&"74)T)ET-XEL:Q/O80W?
W:/LI/&:MO73XA B.A/(:AMFL/O92W ZO85H MAT.A71T):ELOHI73YM
HI75Y)00
4. 19 10K.IY LO74) HAR:B."80H YIZ:K.O73R)ET-?Y:M"74Y
XAY.F92Y/W
5. K.I94Y HF/):ELOHI91YM MA(:ANE73H B.:/&IM:XA71T LIB./O75W00?

F. 8:15

1. 15 W:/\$IB.A70X:T.I75Y):ANIY03)ET-HA/&.IM:XF80H):A\$E63R
2.)"75YN-+O70WB LF75/)FDFM03 T.A74XAT HA/\$.E80ME\$?
3. K.I91Y)IM-LE/):EKO71WL W:/LI/\$:T.O73WT
4. W:/LI/&:MO92WXA
5. W:/H62W.) YIL:W/E74N.W. BA/(:AMFL/O81W
6. Y:M"71Y XAY.F91Y/W?):A\$ER-NF75TAN L/O71W HF-):ELOHI73YM
T.A71XAT HA/\$.F75ME\$00?

G. 9:7-10

This echoes many of the strains of the earlier passages, but does not follow their forms.

7 L"74K:):EKO70L B.:/&IM:XFH03 LAX:M/E80KF W.95/\$:AT"71H
B:/LEB-+O73WB Y"YN/E92KF? K.I74Y K:BF80R RFCF71H
HF/):ELOHI73YM)E75T-MA(:A&E75Y/KF00?
8 B.:/KFL-("85T YIH:Y71W. B:GFDE73Y/KF L:BFNI92YM W:/\$E73MEN
(AL-RO)\$/:KF71)AL-YEX:SF75R00?
9 R:)"63H XAY.I61YM (IM-)I\$.F74H):A\$ER-)FHA81B:T.F
K.FL-Y:M"Y03 XAY."74Y HEB:L/E80KF?):A\$E70R NF75TAN-L/:KF03
T.A74XAT HA/\$.E80ME\$ K.O73L Y:M"74Y HEB:L/E92KF? K.I74Y
H70W.) XEL:Q/:KF03 B.A75/XAY.I80YM W./BA/(:AMF74L/:KF80

) :AŞER-)AT.F71H (FM"73L T.A71XAT HA/\$.F75ME\$00?
10 14K.OL) :AŞE63R T.IM:CF94) YF75D/:KF71 LA/(:A&O71WT
B.:/KOX/:AKF73 (:A&"92H? K.IY04)"63YN MA(:A&E70H
W:/XEŞ:B.OWN03 W:/DA74(AT W:/XFK:MF80H B.I/\$:)O85WL?
) :AŞE71R)AT.F73H HOL"71K: \$F75M./FH00 S?

H. 11:9,10

9 &:MA94X B.FX74W.R B.:/YAL:DW.TE81Y/KF WI75/Y+I75YB/:KF70
LIB./:KF03 B.I/YM"74Y B:XW.ROWT/E80KF? W:/HAL."K:03
B.:/DAR:K"74Y LIB./:KF80 W./B:/MAR:)"73Y ("YNE92Y/KF?
W:/DF85(K.I94Y (AL-K.FL-)"91L.EH Y:BI75Y)/:AKF71
HF/):ELOHI73YM B.A/M.IŞ:P.F75+00?
10 W:/HFS"71R K.A63(AS03 MI/L.IB./E80KF W:/HA(:AB"71R
RF(F73H MI/B.:&FR/E92KF? K.I75Y-HA/Y.AL:D71W.T
W:/HA75/\$.AX:AR73W.T HF75BEL00?