All is Vanity:

There is a deep yearning in people to find meaning or satisfaction in their lives. It is written in Ecclesiastes that everything in life is vanity: *The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity. What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun? One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.* Ecclesiastes 1:1-4.

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the definition of "vanity" is: 1) inflated pride in oneself, or 2) of something that is vain, empty, or valueless. The book of Ecclesiastes, which is attributed to King Solomon, the son of David, who was said to be extremely wise. It teaches that the life of man is only vanity. Either of the two definitions for "vanity" as given in the dictionary are associated with what is written in Ecclesiastes. Man has an inflated pride in himself and his accomplishments, which diminishes his consideration of, and reverence toward God, who is the Creator of all things. Everything man does is vain, empty, and valueless, in comparison to the works of God; and the duty of man to worship God, and obey Him.

In regard to the wisdom of man, and all that he has accomplished, the writer of Ecclesiastes compares this to God, and finds that it is all vanity, because it does not endure. Whereas everything of man is temporal, everything of God is eternal*: I 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.* Eccliesiastes 3:14. The works of God can never be understood by man, no matter how hard he tries: *Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labour to seek it out, yet he shall not find it; yea further; though a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it.* Ecclesiastes 8:17.

Although the two definitions for vanity that have been noted can be perceived as being related to what is written in Ecclesiastes, the Hebrew word that is used in this book of the Bible for "vanity" has the meaning of "vapor," or "breath." In other words, everything in the life of man, and, indeed, life itself, is fleeting, and like a vapor. Nothing that man accomplishes will endure, as opposed to God, and His works, that endure forever.

At the time Ecclesiastes was written, as it is now in the secular world, it was commonly believed that life ends at death. In the view of the writer of Ecclesiastes, since all men die no matter how they live their life, all labor, all pleasure, and the search for wisdom is vanity. *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. 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. All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.* Ecclesiastes 3:18-20. In a physical sense, men and beasts are the same. Although this passage of Scripture says that both man and beast go to one place, another verse in Ecclesiastes says that the spirit of man goes to a different place than the spirit of a beast: *Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the*

beast that goeth downward to the earth? Ecclesiastes 3:21. According to the writer of Ecclesiastes, after a man has died, he is forgotten: *For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.* Ecclesiastes 9:5. Despite this seemingly pessimistic view of life that is expressed in Ecclesiastes, the writer believed that life could still be enjoyed, and he acknowledged that the good things in life are a gift from God: *There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.* Ecclesiastes 2:24.

The sense that life is vanity arises from the view which is made apparent in Ecclesiastes, that life ends at death. This point of view is confirmed by gematria. The method of gematria that is used in this article involves using the Hebrew root word spelling, and not the proper grammatical spelling, for each word in a sentence that is consistent with what is written in Scripture. The gematria value of the sentence determined in this way is then shown to have direct correlation with a Greek word or words from the Bible which have the same numerical value. In the gematria evidence to follow, each Hebrew root word that is used in a sentence is identified by its reference number according to *Strong's Concordance.* Associated Greek words, which may be alternate spellings of the words according to rules of grammar are also identified by their *Strong's* reference numbers.

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **is everything** (H3605) **in this** (H2088) **life.** (H2416)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל זה חִי

18 + 12 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 74 + 74 = **930**

The writing of Ecclesiastes is attributed to ''*the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem."* This is King Solomon.

King (H4428) **Solomon** (H8019) **said,** (H559) **vanity** (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **all** (H3605) **of man's** (H120) **life** (H1416) **is vanity.** (H1892)

מלך שׁלמה אמר הבל הבל כל אדם חִי הבל

37 + 18 + 45 + 50 + 37 + 37 + 375 + 90 = **930**

VANITY (G3153) (root word spelling) = ματαιότης = **930**

The following sentence is just as the words are written in Ecclesiastes.

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher:** (H6953) **one generation** (H1755) **passes away,** (H1980) **and another generation** (H1755) **comes:** (H935) **but the earth** (H776) **abides** (H5975) **forever.** (H5769)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת דּוֹר הלך הלך בּוֹא ארץ עמד עוֹלם

146 + 114 + 291 + 9 + 210 + 55 + 210 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **1885**

VANITY (G3153) **OF** (G1553) **VANITIES** (G3153) = ματαιότης ἐκ ματαιότης = 930 + 25 + 930 = **1885**

All of man's labor is vanity, because man's life on earth is fleeting. In the following sentence, the Hebrew words for "one" and "another," which are implied but not found in Ecclesiastes 1:4, are used.

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **One** (H259) **generation** (H1755) **passes away,** (H1980) **and another** (H312) **generation** (H1755) **comes.** (H935)

הבל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל אחד דור הלך אחר דור בוא

9 + 210 + 209 + 55 + 210 + 13 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 37 = **1726**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **King** (H4428) **Solomon,** (H8010) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999)

הבל הבל אמר מלך שלמה מה יתרון אדם כל עמל

140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 375 + 90 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **1726**

ALL (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = πᾶς ἐστί ματαιότης = 281 + 515 + 930 = **1726**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **Solomon,** (H8010) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **under** (H8478) **the sun?** (H8121) **For** (H3588) **one** (H259) **generation** (H1755**) passes away,** (H1980) **and another generation** (H1755) **comes.** (H935)

הבל הבל אמר שלמה מה יתרון אדם כל עמל תחת שמש כִּי אחד דור הלך דור בוא

9 + 210 + 55 + 210 + 13 + 30 + 640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 375 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **3611**

VANITY (G3153) **OF** (G1537) **VANITIES,** (G3153) **ALL** (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = ματαιότης εκ ματαιότης πᾶς ἐστί ματαιότης = 930 + 25 + 930 + 281 + 515 + 930 = **3611**

It is written in Psalms that even the thoughts of man are vanity. *The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.* Psalms 94:11. The following sentence uses the exact same Hebrew root words from Scripture.

The LORD (H3068) **knows** (H3045) **the thoughts** (H4284) **of man,** (H120) **that** (H3588) **they** (H1992) **are vanity.** (H1892)

יהוה ידע מחשבה אדם כִּי הם הבל

37 + 45 + 30 + 45 + 355 + 84 + 26 = **622**

The gematria value of 622 is that for the root word spelling of a different Greek word which is also translated as either “vain” or “vanities.”

VAIN / VANITIES / USELESS (G3152) (root word spelling) = μάταιος = **622**

In the next sentence, the same Hebrew root words that are found in the KJV of Ecclesiastes 1:3, for “which he taketh,” are used. This is translated as “which he toils” in other translations.

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **which he toils?** (H7945) (H5998) **For** (H3588) **all** (H3605) **the labor** (H5999) **of man** (H120) **is only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל שׁל עמל כִּי כל עמל אדם יחִיד הבל

37 + 32 + 45 + 140 + 50 + 30 + 140 + 330 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2687**

The numerical word association with this gematria value uses the root word spelling of G3152 for “vanity” instead of G3153, as used previously.

VANITY (G3152) **OF** (G1537) **VANITIES,** (G3152) **ALL** (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3152) = μάταιος εκ μάταιος πᾶς ἐστί μάταιος = 622 + 25 + 622 + 281 + 515 + 622 = **2687**

In the following sentence, different Hebrew root words for “profit” and “labor,” from those that are used in Ecclesiastes, are employed, and yet the truth of Scripture is confirmed by the numerical word association.

The Preacher (H6953) **said,** (H559) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3276) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H3021) **For** (H3588) **it is all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892)

קהלת אמר הבל הבל מה יעל אדם כל יגע כִּי כל הבל

37 + 50 + 30 + 83 + 50 + 45 + 110 + 45 + 37 + 37 + 241 + 535 = **1300**

VANITY (G3153) = ματαιότητος = **1300**

The Preacher in Ecclesiastes writes that all of man’s labor is vanity.

All (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **is vanity.** (H1892)

כל עמל הבל

37 + 140 + 50 = **227**

LABOR (G2872) = κεκοπιακα = **227**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל הבל

37 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **937**

LABOR (G2872) = κοπιασαντες = **937**

Concerning (H5921) **man:** (H120) **all** (H3605) **the labor** (H5999) **in his life** (H2416) **is vanity.** (H1892)

על אדם כל עמל חֵי הבל

37 + 18 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 100 = **440**

LABOR (G2873) (root word spelling) = κόπος = **440**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the king** (H4428) **in Jerusalem** (H3389) **all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892) **The labor** (H3021) **of man,** (H120) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר מלך ירוּשׁלם כל הבל עמל אדם הבל

37 + 45 + 140 + 37 + 50 + 586 + 90 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **1300**

VANITY (G3153) = ματαιότητος = **1300**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999)

הבל הבל מה יתרוֹן אדם כל עמל

140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 37 = **1020**

LABOR (G2873) = κόπων = **1020**

The Preacher said that there was no profit in all the works of man. *Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.* Ecclesiastes 2:11

All of man's work, and everything he accomplishes is vanity. In the following sentence, the Hebrew word for "work/works" is used.

All (H3605) **work** (H4639) **is vanity.** (H1892)

כל מעשׂה הבל

37 + 415 + 37 = **547**

WORK (G2038) **=** εργαζονται = **547**

Surely, (H3588) **labor** (H5999) **and works** (H4639) **are vanity.** (H1892)

כִּי עמל מעשׂה הבל

37 + 415 + 140 + 30 = **622**

VAIN / VANITIES / USELESS (G3152) (root word spelling) = μάταιος = **622**

The Hebrew word H3276 is again used in the following sentence for "profit."

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3276) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999)

הבל הבל כל הבל מה יעל אדם כל עמל

140 + 50 + 45 + 110 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 37 + 37 = **551**

WORK / LABOR (G2038) = εργαζομενος = **551**

WORK / BE AT WORK (G1754) = ενηργειτο = **551**

Each of the next two sentences concerning the vanity of man's labor has the same gematria value.

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **the labor** (H5999) **which he toils?** (H7945) (H5998) **It** (H1931) **is all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892)

מה יתרוֹן הָיה אדם כל עמל שׁל עמל הוּא כל הבל

37 + 50 + 12 + 640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **1535**

In the following sentence, the Hebrew word H3276 is used for "profit" instead of H3504, which was used in Ecclesiastes 1:3.

The Preacher, (H6953) **said,** (H559) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3276) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his work?** (H4639)

קהלת אמר הבל הבל מה יעל הָיה אדם כל מעשׂה

415 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 110 + 45 + 37 + 37 + 241 + 535 = **1535**

LABOR (G2872) = κοπιωντες = **1535**

The Preacher discovered that man does not profit of all his labor.

Labor (H5999) **does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3504) **a man.** (H120) **It** (H1931) **is all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892)

עמל לא יתרוֹן אדם הוּא כל הבל

37 + 50 + 12 + 45 + 666 + 31 + 140 = **981**

LABOR (G2872) (root word spelling) = κόπιαω = **981**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל הבל מה יתרון הָיה אדם כל עמל

140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **1883**

PROFITABLE (G2173) (root word spelling) = εὔχρηστος = **1883**

Concerning (H5921) **the life** (H2416) **of man:** (H120) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **All** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **is vanity.** (H1892)

על חֵי אדם מה יתרון אדם כל עמל כל עמל הבל

37 + 140 + 50 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 45 + 18 + 100 = **1386**

PROFITABLE / PROFIT (G5624) = ωφελιμα = **1386**

All (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **Man** (H120) **does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3276) **of all** (H3605) **his labor.** (H5999) **His labor** (H5999) **is only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892)

כל הבל אדם לא יתרון כל עמל עמל יחִיד הבל

37 + 32 + 140 + 140 + 50 + 666 + 31 + 45 + 37 + 50 = **1228**

PROFIT (G5539) (root word spelling) = χρησιμος = **1228**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher.** (H6953) **All** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **All** (H3605) **labor** (H5999) **is vanity,** (H1892) **and does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3276) **a man.** (H120)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל הבל כל עמל הבל לא יעל אדם

45 + 110 + 31 + 37 + 140 + 50 + 37 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **1350**

PROFIT (G5623) = ωφελει = **1350**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher.** (H6953) **All** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **For** (H3588) **all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל כִּי כל עמל הבל

37 + 140 + 50 + 30 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2140**

PROFIT (G5623) (root word spelling) = ὠφελέω = **2140**

Man (H120) **does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3504) **of all** (H3605) **his labor.** (H1892) **All** (H3605) **the works** (H4639) **of man** (H120) **are vanity.** (H1892)

אדם לא יתרון כל עמל כל מעשה אדם הבל

37 + 45 + 415 + 50 + 140 + 50 + 666 + 31 + 45 = **1479**

UNPROFITABLE (G890) (root word spelling) = ἄχρηστος = **1479**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **all** (H3605) **the labor** (H5999) **of man** (H120 **is vanity.** (H1892) **All** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **under** (H8478) **the sun** (H8121) **does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3504) **a man:** (H120) **for** (H3588) **all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל כל עמל אדם הבל כל עמל תחת שמש לא יתרון אדם כי כל עמל הבל

37 + 140 + 50 + 30 + 45 + 666 + 31 + 640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 37 + 45 + 140 + 50 + 37 + 37 = **2983**

THE WORK (G2041) **OF MAN** (G444) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = ἔργον ἄνθρωπος ἐστί ματαιότης = 228 + 1310 + 515 + 930 = **2983**

The Preacher wrote that he had seen everything that was done, and it was all vanity. *I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.* Ecclesiastes 1:14.

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **For** (H3588) **everything** (H3605) **under** (H8478) **the sun** (H8121) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל כל הבל כי כל תחת שמש הבל

37 + 640 + 808 + 50 + 30 + 37 + 50 + 37 + 37 = **1726**

ALL (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = πᾶς ἐστί ματαιοτης = 281 + 515 + 930 = **1726**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **under** (H8478) **the sun?** (H8121)

הבל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל תחת שמש

640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 37 = **2468**

The Preacher is Solomon, the son of David.

The son (H1121) **of David** (H1732) **said,** (H559) **all** (H3605) **things** (H1697) **a man** (H120) **does** (H6213) **under** (H8478) **the sun** (H8121) **is vanity.** (H1892)

בן דוד אמר כל דבר אדם עשה תחת שמש הבל

37 + 640 + 808 + 375 + 45 + 206 + 50 + 241 + 14 + 52 = **2468**

The Greek word G2041, which means “work or labor,” is used in the numerical word association with a gematria value of 2468.

THE WORK (G2041) **OF MAN** (G444) **IS VANITY** (G3153) = ἔργον ἄνθρωπος ματαιότης = 228 + 1310 + 930 = **2468**

In the next three examples of gematria confirmation, the word for "is" is included in the same associated Greek phrase as used above.

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **the labor** (H5999) **which he toils** (H7945) (H5998) **under** (H8478) **the sun?** (H8121) **It** (H1931) **is all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892)

מה יתרון הָיה אדם כל עמל שׁל עמל תחת שׁמשׁ הוּא כל הבל

37 + 50 + 12 + 640 + 808 + 140 + 330 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **2983**

The Preacher, (H6953) **the son** (H1121) **of David,** (H1732) **said,** (H559) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3276) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **For** (H3588) **one** (H259) **generation** (H1755**) passes away,** (H1980) **and another** (H312) **generation** (H1755) **comes,** (H935) **but** (H3588) **the earth** (H776) **abides** (H5975) **forever.** (H5769)

קהלת בּן דּוד אמר מה יעל אדם כל עמל כִּי אחד דּוֹר הלך אחר דּוֹר בּוֹא כִּי ארץ עמד עוֹלם

146 + 114 + 291 + 30 + 9 + 210 + 209 + 55 + 210 + 13 + 30 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 110 + 45 + 241 + 14 + 52 + 535 = **2983**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3276) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H4639) **under** (H8478) **the sun?** (H8121)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת מה יעל הָיה אדם כל מעשׂה תחת שׁמשׁ

640 + 808 + 415 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 110 + 45 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2983**

THE WORK (G2041) **OF MAN** (G444) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = ἔργον ἄνθρωπος ἐστί ματαιότης = 228 + 1310 + 515 + 930 = **2983**

For the next gematria association, the Greek word for "all" is added to this Greek phrase.

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3276) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **under** (H8478) **the sun?** (H8121) **All** (H3605) **his work** (H4639) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת הבל הבל מה יעל אדם כל עמל תחת שׁמשׁ כל מעשׂה הבל

37 + 415 + 50 + 640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 110 + 45 + 37 + 37 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **3264**

ALL (G3956) **THE WORK** (G2041) **OF MAN** (G444) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) =

πᾶς ἔργον ἄνθρωπος ἐστί ματαιότης = 281 + 228 + 1310 + 515 + 930 = **3264**

As in a previous gematria example, the Hebrew words for “one” and “another” are used in the following sentence.

The Preacher (H6953) **said,** (H559) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of everything** (H3605) **under** (H8478) **the sun?** (H8121) **One** (H259) **generation** (H1755**) passes away,** (H1980) **and another** (H312) **generation** (H1755) **comes.** (H935)

קהלת אמר מה יתרון אדם כל תחת שמש אחד דור הלך אחר דור בוא

9 + 210 + 209 + 55 + 210 + 13 + 640 + 808 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 241 + 535 = **3736**

The Greek word G2872, which means “labor or toil,” is used to demonstrate a numerical word association with the gematria value of 3736.

THE LABOR (G2872) **OF MAN** (G444) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = κοπιαω ανθρωπος ἐστὶ ματαιοτης = 981 + 1310 + 515 + 930 = **3736**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **the son** (H1121) **of David.** (H1732) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **All** (H3605) **labor** (H5999) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **under** (H8478) **the sun?** (H8121)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת בן דוד הבל הבל כל עמל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל תחת שמש

640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 140 + 50 + 37 + 37 + 14 + 52 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **3611**

VANITY (G3153) **OF** (G1537) **VANITIES,** (G3153) **ALL** (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = ματαιότης ἐκ ματαιότης πᾶς ἐστί ματαιότης = 930 + 25 + 930 + 281 + 515 + 930 = **3611**

As it is written in Ecclesiastes, and confirmed by the following four numerical word associations of the same gematria value, all of man’s life is vanity.

The Preacher, (H6953) **the king,** (H4428) **said,** (H559) **all** (H3605) **labor** (H5999) **under** (H8478) **the sun** (H8121) **is vanity.** (H1892)

קהלת מלך אמר כל עמל תחת שמש הבל

37 + 640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 241 + 90 + 535 = **2541**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **vanity** (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **One** (H259) **generation** (H1755) **passes away,** (H1980) **and another generation** (H1755) **comes.** (H935) **All** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת הבל הבל כל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל אחד דור הלך דור בוא כל הבל

37 + 50 + 9 + 210 + 55 + 210 + 13 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 37 + 37 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2541**

The Preacher, (H6953) **the king,** (H4428) **the son** (H1121) **of David,** (H1732) **said,** (H559) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **everything** (H3605) **under** (H8478) **the sun** (H8121) **is vanity.** (H1892)

קהלת מלך בן דוד אמר הבל הבל הבל כל תחת שמש הבל

37 + 640 + 808 + 50 + 37 + 37 + 241 + 14 + 52 + 90 + 535 = **2541**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **a man** (H120) **does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3504) **of all** (H3605) **his labor.** (H5999) **One generation** (H1755**) passes away,** (H1980) **and another generation** (H1755) **comes.** (H935) **The life** (H2416) **of man** (H120) **is vanity,** (H1892) **because** (H3588) **it does not** (H3808) **endure.** (H5975)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת אדם לא יתרון כל עמל דור הלך הלך בוא חי אדם הבל כי לא עמד

114 + 31 + 30 + 37 + 45 + 18 + 9 + 210 + 55 + 210 + 140 + 330 + 140 + 50 + 666 + 31 + 45 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2541**

ALL (G3956) **LIFE** (G2222) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = πᾶς ζωή ἐστί ματαιότης = 281 + 815 + 515 + 930 = **2541**

The Preacher in Ecclesiastes devoted his life to seeking wisdom, and found it to be only vanity: *And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith. I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.* Ecclesiastes 1:13-14. After laboring to gain wisdom, everything is left to another who has not labored: *For there is a man whose labour is in wisdom, and in knowledge, and in equity; yet to a man that hath not laboured therein shall he leave it for his portion. This also is vanity and a great evil.* Ecclesiastes 2:21. *Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.* Ecclesiastes 9:10.

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor,** (H5999) **and search** (H8446) **for wisdom?** (H2451)

מה יתרון היה אדם כל עמל תור חכמה

73 + 606 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **1645**

STRIVE / LABOR / STUDY (G5389) = φιλοτιμουμενον = **1645**

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor,** (H5999) **and search** (H8446) **for wisdom?** (H2451) **It** (H1931) **is only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892)

מה יתרון היה אדם כל עמל תור חכמה הוא יחיד הבל

37 + 32 + 12 + 73 + 606 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **1726**

ALL (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = πᾶς ἐστί ματαιότης = 281 + 515 + 930 = **1726**

The Preacher looked for satisfaction in pleasure, and found this to also be vanity: *I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity.* Ecclesiastes 2:1.

All (H3605) **labor,** (H5999) **all** (H3605) **pleasure,** (H2654) **and to seek** (H1245) **wisdom,** (H2451) **is vanity.** (H1892)

כל עמל כל חפץ בקשׁ חכמה הבל

37 + 73 + 402 + 178 + 50 + 140 + 50 = **930**

VANITY (G3153) (root word spelling) = ματαιότης = **930**

Everything in a man's life is vanity: his labor, his pleasure, his possessions, and his search for wisdom, are all vanity.

All (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **The labor** (H5999) **of man,** (H120) **his pleasure,** (H2654) **his possessions,** (H3423), **and his search** (H8446) **for wisdom,** (H2451) **are all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892)

כל הבל עמל אדם חפץ ירשׁ תור חכמה כל הבל

37 + 50 + 73 + 606 + 510 + 178 + 45 + 140 + 37 + 50 = **1726**

ALL (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = πας ἐστὶ ματαιοτης = 281 + 515 + 930 = **1726**

Each of the next three examples of numerical word associations has the same gematria value of 3611, and confirms the truth of Scripture: all of mankind's endeavors are vanity.

The Preacher (H6953) **said,** (H559) **All** (H3065) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **All** (H3605) **his labor,** (H5999) **and search** (H8446) **to seek out** (H1245) **knowledge** (H1847) **and wisdom,** (H2451) **is vanity.** (H1892)

קהלת אמר כל הבל מה יתרון הֵיה אדם כל עמל כלעמל תור בקשׁ דעת חכמה הבל

37 + 73 + 474 + 402 + 606 + 140 + 50 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 241 + 535 = **3611**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **king** (H4428) **Solomon,** (H8010) **the son** (H1121) **of David,** (H1732) **All** (H3065) **is vanity.** (H1892) **All** (H3605) **of man's** (H120) **labor,** (H5999) **all** (H3605) **his wealth** (H5233) **and his pleasure,** (H2654) **and to seek out** (H1245) **knowledge** (H1847) **and wisdom,** (H2451) **is all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892) **For** (H3588) **one** (H259) **generation** (H1755**) passes away,** (H1980) **and another** (H312) **generation** (H1755) **comes.** (H935)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת מלך שׁלמה בן דּוד כל הבל כל אדם עמל כל נכס חפץ בקשׁ דּעת חכמה כל הבל כִּי אחד דּוֹר הלך אחר דּוֹר בוֹא

9 + 210 + 55 + 210 + 30 + 37 + 50 + 73 + 474 + 402 + 178 + 130 + 50 + 140 + 45 + 50 + 37 + 50 + 14 + 52 + 375 + 90 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **3611**

The Preacher said that all is vanity because both the wise and the foolish die.

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **king** (H4428) **Solomon,** (H8010) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **It** (H1931) **is vanity** (H1892) **for men** (H120) **to search** (H8446) **and seek out** (H1245) **wisdom:** (H2451) **both** (H8147) **the wise** (H2450) **and the foolish** (H3684) **die.** (H4191)

הבל הבל אמר שׁלמה פּהלת כל הבל הוּא הבל אדם תּוֹר בקשׁ חכמה שׁנים חכם כסִיל מוּת

446 + 120 + 68 + 400 + 73 + 402 + 606 + 45 + 37 + 12 + 37 + 50 + 535 + 375 + 90 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **3611**

VANITY (G3153) **OF** (G1537) **VANITIES,** (G3153) **ALL** (G3956) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = ματαιότης ἐκ ματαιότης πᾶς ἐστί ματαιότης = 930 + 25 + 930 + 281 + 515 + 930 = **3611**

As noted at the beginning of this article, the Hebrew word that is used for “vanity” has the connotation of a “vapor.” Gematria confirms that the life of man is fleeting, and nothing more than a vapor.

All (H3605) **things** (H1697) **in the life** (H2416) **of man** (H120) **are vanity.** (H1892)

כל דּבר חִי אדם הבל

37 + 45 + 18 + 206 + 50 = **356**

MAN (G435) = ανδρας = **356**

VAPOR (G822) = ατμιδα = **356**

All (H3605) **things** (H1697) **in the life** (H2416) **of man** (H120) **are vanity.** (H1892) **Nothing** (H3808) (H3605) **endures.** (H5975)

כל דּבר חִי אדם הבל לא כל עמד

114 + 50 + 31 + 37 + 45 + 18 + 206 + 50 = **551**

VAPOR (G822) (root word spelling) = ἀτμίς = **551**

Everything in the life of a man is like a vapor, and is therefore only vanity. All his labor, and even the thoughts of man are vanity; to which two other Greek words with a gematria value of 551 attest.

LABOR / WORK (G2038) = ἐργαζόμενος = **551**

THOUGHT (G3309) = μεριμνᾶτε = **551**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **One** (H259) **generation** (H1755**) passes away,** (H1980) **and another** (H312) **generation** (H1755) **comes.** (H935) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **this** (H2088) **is only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל אחד דור הלך אחר דור בוא הבל הבל זה יחיד הבל

37 + 32 + 12 + 37 + 37 + 9 + 210 + 209 + 55 + 210 + 13 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 37 = **1881**

The Preacher (H6953) **said,** (H559) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **in the things** (H1697) **of life?** (H2416) **Everything** (H3605) **in life** (H2416) **is vanity.** (H1892)

קהלת אמר מה יתרון היה אדם דבר חי כל חי אהב

37 + 18 + 50 + 18 + 206 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 + 241 + 535 = **1881**

LIFE (G2222) **IS** (G2076) **A VAPOR** (G822) = ζωή ἐστί ἀτμίς = 815 + 515 + 551 = **1881**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **Solomon.** (H8010) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **the things** (H1697) **in life?** (H2416) **The things** (H1697) **in life** (H2416) **are vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר שלמה הבל הבל כל הבל מה יתרון היה אדם כל דבר חי דבר חי הבל

37 + 18 + 206 + 18 + 206 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 37 + 37 + 375 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2162**

The wise (H2450) **Preacher,** (H6953) **the son** (H1121) **of David,** (H1732) **said,** (H559) **All** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **the things** (H1697) **in life?** (H2416) **For** (H3588) **all** (H3605) **his life** (H2416) **is vanity.** (H1892)

חכם קהלת בן דוד אמר כל הבל מה יתרון היה אדם כל דבר חי כי כל חי הבל

18 + 50 + 30 + 18 + 206 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 241 + 14 + 52 + 535 + 68 = **2162**

ALL (G3956) **LIFE** (G2222) **IS** (G2076) **A VAPOR** (G822) = πᾶς ζωή ἐστί ἀτμίς = 281 + 815 + 515 + 551 = **2162**

In the KJV of the Bible, Ecclesiastes 1:14 is written as follows: *I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and* ***vexation of spirit****.* In the New American Standard (NAS) version of the Bible it is written as: *I have seen all the works under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and* ***striving after wind.*** Ecclesiastes 1:14. The NIV Bible is translated in this way*: I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless,* ***a chasing after the wind.*** Ecclesiastes 1:14. The truth of this verse is shown through gematria whether man's labor is called "vexation of the spirit," "striving after wind," or "a chasing after the wind."

In the following gematria example, the Hebrew root words that are used in the verse for "vexation of the spirit," are employed.

The son (H1121) **of David** (H1732) **said,** (H559) **All** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **All** (H3605) **the works** (H4639) **that are done** (H7945) (H6213) **are all** (H3605) **vanity** (H1892) **and vexation** (H7469) **of the spirit.** (H7307)

בן דוד אמר כל הבל כל מעשה שׁל עשׂה כל הבל רעות רוח

214 + 676 + 37 + 50 + 375 + 330 + 415 + 50 + 37 + 50 + 241 + 14 + 52 = **2541**

ALL (G3956) **LIFE** (G2222) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = πᾶς ζωή ἐστί ματαιότης = 281 + 815 + 515 + 930 = **2541**

As noted, in the NAS Bible, "vexation of the spirit," is translated as "striving after the wind."

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **the labor** (H5999) **he has done?** (H6213)

מה יתרון הִיה אדם כל עמל עשׂה

375 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **1341**

STRIVE / LABOR FERVENTLY (G75) = αγωνιζου = **1341**

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **the labor** (H5999) **he has done?** (H6213) **All** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **is vanity**. (H1892)

מה יתרון הִיה אדם כל עמל עשׂה כל עמל הבל

37 + 140 + 50 + 375 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **1568**

STRIVE AFTER (G75) **THE WIND** (G4151) = ἀγωνίζομαι πνεῦμα = 992 + 576 = **1568**

Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun. Ecclesiastes 2:11. The Preacher looked at the works of his hands, and found all his labor to be vanity, and without profit.

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of the labor** (H5999) **of his hands?** (H3027)

מה יתרון היה אדם עמל יד

14 + 140 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **930**

VANITY (G3153) (root word spelling) = ματαιότης = **930**

All the labor of his hands is simply a striving after, or chasing after the wind. Instead of the Hebrew root word for "vexation," the Hebrew root word for "chasing" is used in the following numerical word associations, along with the same Hebrew word from Scripture (H7307) that is used for both "spirit" or "wind."

What (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has** (H1961) **a man** (H120) **of the labor** (H5999) **of his hands?** (H3027) **His labor** (H5999) **is a chasing after** (H7291) **the wind.** (H7307)

מה יתרון היה אדם עמל יד עמל רדף רוח

214 + 284 + 140 + 14 + 140 + 45 + 20 + 666 + 45 = **1568**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **It is all** (H3605) **a chasing after** (H7291) **the wind.** (H7307)

הבל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל כל רדף רוח

214 + 284 + 50 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 37 = **1568**

STRIVE AFTER (G75) **THE WIND** (G4151) = ἀγωνίζομαι πνεῦμα = 992 + 576 = **1568**

Different Hebrew root words for "chasing after" are used in the next two sentences.

The Preacher (H6953) **said,** (H559) **all** (H3605) **of man's** (H120) **labor** (H5999) **is a chasing** (H1814) **after** (H312) **the wind.** (H7307)

קתלה אמר כל אדם עמל דלק אחר רוח

214 + 209 + 134 + 140 + 45 + 50 + 241 + 535 = **1568**

All (H3605) **of man's** (H120) **labor** (H5999) **is vanity,** (H1892) **and without** (H369) **profit.** (H3504) **It** (H1931) **is a chasing** (H1814) **after** (H312) **the wind.** (H7307)

כל אדם עמל הבל אין יתרון הוא דלק אחר רוח

214 + 209 + 134 + 12 + 666 + 61 + 37 + 140 + 45 + 50 = **1568**

STRIVE AFTER (G75) **THE WIND** (G4151) = ἀγωνίζομαι πνεῦμα = 992 + 576 = **1568**

The following three sentences concerning the vanity of man's labor confirms that it is merely chasing after the wind.

The wise (H2450) **Preacher** (H6953) **said,** (H559) **Vanity** (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **all** (H3065) **is vanity.** (H1892) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **All** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **is only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892)

חכם קהלה אמר הבל הבל כל הבל מה יתרון אדם כל עמל כל עמל יחיד הבל

37 + 32 + 140 + 50 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 37 + 50 + 37 + 37 + 241 + 535 + 68 = **2210**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities.** (H1892) **All** (H3605) **labor** (H5999) **under** (H8478) **the sun** (H8121) **is a chasing after** (H7291) **the wind.** (H7307)

הבל הבל כל עמל תחת שמש רדק רוח

214 + 284 + 640 + 808 + 140 + 50 + 37 + 37 = **2210**

The Preacher (H6953) **said,** (H559) **All** (H3605) **the works** (H4639) **man** (H120) **has made** (H6213) **with his hands** (H3027) **is vanity,** (H1892) **and a chasing after** (H7291) **the wind.** (H7307)

קהלה אמר כל מעשה אדם עשה יד הבל רדק רוח

214 + 284 + 37 + 14 + 375 + 45 + 415 + 50 + 241 + 535 = **2210**

The Greek root word G75 means "to pursue, to follow after," which is "to chase," and is used in the associated Greek phrase with a gematria value of 2210.

CHASING AFTER (G75) **THE WIND** (G4151) = διώκω πνεῦμα = 1634 + 576 = **2210**

Life is meaningful only when the majesty of God and His beneficence is acknowledged, and His commandments obeyed: *He 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. I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life. And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God. I 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.* Ecclesiastes 3:11-14. *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.* Ecclesiastes 12:13.

What (H4100) **profit** (H1215) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **If** (H518) **he does not** (H3808) **fear** (H3372) **God:** (H430) **it is all** (H3605) **only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892)

מה בצע אדם כל עמל אם לא ירא אלהים כל יחיד הבל

37 + 32 + 50 + 86 + 211 + 31 + 41 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 162 + 45 = **930**

VANITY (G3153) (root word spelling) = ματαιότης = **930**

The wise (H2450) **Preacher** (H6953) **said,** (H559) **All** (H3605) **is vanity** (H1892) **if** (H518) **you do not** (H3808) **fear** (H3372) **God.** (H430)

חכם קהלת אמר כל הבל אם לא ירא אלהים

86 + 211 + 31 + 41 + 37 + 50 + 241 + 535 + 68 = **1300**

All (H3605) **is vanity** (H1892) **if** (H518) **you do not** (H3808) **fear** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keep** (H8104) **His commandments.** (H4687)

כל הבל אם לא ירא אלהִים שׁמר מצוה

141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 31 + 41 + 37 + 50 = **1300**

VANITY (G3153) = ματαιότητος = **1300**

Man (H120) **does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3276) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **unless** (H3884) **he fears** (H3372) **God.** (H430)

אדם לא יעל כל עמל לוּלא ירא אלהִים

86 + 211 + 67 + 140 + 50 + 110 + 31 + 45 = **740**

WORK / LABOR (G2038) = ειργασαντο = **740**

All (H3605) **labor** (H5999) **is vanity,** (H1892) **unless** (H3588) (H518) **you keep** (H8104) **the commandments** (H4687) **of God:** (H430) **for** (H3588) **this** (H2088) **is the whole** (H3605) **duty of man.** (H120)

כל עמל הבל כִּי אם שׁמר מצוה אלהִים כִּי זה כל אדם

45 + 50 + 12 + 30 + 86 + 141 + 540 + 41 + 30 + 37 + 140 + 50 = **1202**

VAIN / VANITIES (G3152) = ματαιων = **1202**

Man (H120) **does not** (H3808) **profit** (H3276) **of all** (H3605) **his labor** (H5999) **unless** (H3884) **he fears** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keeps** (H8104) **His commandments:** (H4687) **for** (H3588) **this** (H2088) **is the whole** (H3605) **duty of man.** (H120)

אדם לא יעל כל עמל לוּלא ירא אלהִים שׁמר מצוה כִּי זה כל אדם

45 + 50 + 12 + 30 + 141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 67 + 140 + 50 + 110 + 31 + 45 = **1558**

PROFIT (G5623) = ὠφελήσει = **1558**

What (H4100) **profit** (H1215) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **If** (H518) **he does not** (H3808) **fear** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keep** (H8104) **His commandments** (H4687) **it is all** (H3605) **only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892)

מה בצע אדם כל עמל אם לא ירא אלהִים שׁמר מצוה כל יחִיד הבל

37 + 32 + 50 + 141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 31 + 41 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 162 + 45 = **1611**

PROFIT (G6623) = ωφεληθησαν = **1611**

The following sentence is identical to the preceding gematria example except that the word for "only" is deleted, and the Hebrew word for "it" (H1931) is added, which is only used for emphasis or without a verb.

What (H4100) **profit** (H1215) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **If** (H518) **he does not** (H3808) **fear** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keep** (H8104) **His commandments** (H4687) **it** (H1931) **is all** (H3605) **vanity.** (H1892)

מה בצע אדם כל עמל אם לא ירא אלֹהִים שׁמר מצוה הוא כל הבל

37 + 50 + 12 + 141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 31 + 41 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 162 + 45 = **1591**

The next sentence has the same gematria value, and the numerical word association related to these two statements confirm that if one does not fear God, and keep His commandments, all labor is unprofitable.

The work (H4369) **of man** (H120) **is vanity** (H1892) **unless** (H3588) (H518) **the man** (H120) **fears** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keeps** (H8104) **His commandments.** (H4687)

מעשׂה אדם הבל כִּי אם אדם ירא אלֹהִים שׁמר מצוה

141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 45 + 41 + 30 + 37 + 45 + 415 = **1591**

UNPROFITABLE (G512) = ανωφελες = **1591**

It is God, the Father, who must be feared, and His commandments kept, or the work of man is not profitable.

The work (H4369) **of man** (H120) **is vanity** (H1892) **unless** (H3588) (H518) **the man** (H120) **fears** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keeps** (H8104) **the Father's** (H1) **commandments.** (H4687)

מעשׂה אדם הבל כִּי אם אדם ירא אלֹהִים שׁמר אב מצוה

141 + 3 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 45 + 41 + 30 + 37 + 45 + 415 = **1594**

UNPROFITABLE (G512) (root word spelling) = ανωφελης = **1594**

Everything in life is vanity unless one fears God, and keeps His commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. Just as in Ecclesiastes 12:13, no word is used for "duty."

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **The conclusion** (H5490) **of the matter** (H1697) **is to fear** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and to keep** (H8104) **His commandments:** (H4687) **this** (H2088) **is the whole** (H3605) **duty of man.** (H120) **Everything** (H3605) **else** (H5750) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל הבל סוֹף דּבר ירא סלֹהִים שׁמר מצוה זה כל אדם כל עוֹד הבל

37 + 80 + 50 + 45 + 50 + 12 + 141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 206 + 146 + 37 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2541**

ALL (G3956) **LIFE** (G2222) **IS** (G2076) **VANITY** (G3153) = πᾶς ζωή ἐστί ματαιότης = 281 + 815 + 515 + 930 = **2541**

Labor, (H5999) **wisdom,** (H2451) **pleasure,** (H2656) **and wealth** (H5233) **is vanity.** (H1892) **For** (H3588) **the whole** (H3605) **duty of man** (H120) **is to fear** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keep** (H8104) **His commandments.** (H4687)

עמל מכמה חפין נכס הכל כִּי כל אדם שׁמר מצוה

141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 45 + 50 + 30 + 37 + 130 + 178 + 73 + 140 = **1661**

FEAR (G5399) **GOD** (G2316) = φοβέω Θεός = 1377 + 284 = **1661**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher,** (H6953) **all** (H3605) **is vanity.** (H1892) **The conclusion** (H5490) **of the whole** (H3605) **matter** (H1697) **is to fear** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and to keep** (H8104) **the commandments** (H4687) **of the LORD:** (H3068) **for** (H3588) **this** (H2088) **is the whole** (H3605) **duty of man.** (H120) **Everything** (H3605) **else** (H5750) **is vanity.** (H1892)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת כל הבל סוֹף כל דבר ירא סלהִים שׁמר מצוה יהוה כִּי זה כל אדם כל עוֹד הבל

37 + 80 + 50 + 45 + 50 + 12 + 30 + 26 + 141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 206 + 50 + 146 + 37 + 50 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **2647**

KEEP (G5083) **HIS** (G846) **COMMANDMENTS** (G1785) = τηρέω αὑτος εντολή = 1213 + 971 + 463 = **2647**

Vanity (H1892) **of vanities,** (H1892) **said** (H559) **the Preacher.** (H6953) **What** (H4100) **profit** (H3504) **has a man** (H120) **of all** (H3605) **his labor?** (H5999) **Labor,** (H5999) **wisdom,** (H2451) **pleasure,** (H2656) **and wealth,** (H5233) **is only** (H3173) **vanity.** (H1892) **Let us hear** (H8085) **the conclusion** (H5490) **of the whole** (H3605) **matter:** (H1697) **fear** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keep** (H8104) **the commandments** (H4687) **of the LORD:** (H3068) **for** (H3588) **this** (H2088) **is the whole** (H3605) **duty of man.** (H120)

הבל הבל אמר קהלת מה יתרוֹן הִיה אדם כל עמל עמל מכמה חפין נכס יחִיד הבל שׁמע סוֹף כל דּבר ירא סלהִים שׁמר מצוה יהוה כִּי זה כל אדם

45 + 50 + 12 + 30 + 26 + 141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 206 + 50 + 146 + 410 + 37 + 32 + 130 + 178 + 73 + 140 + 140 + 50 + 45 + 666 + 45 + 535 + 241 + 37 + 37 = **4339**

FEAR (G5399) **GOD** (G2316) **AND** (G2532) **KEEP** (G5083) **HIS** (G846) **COMMANDMENTS** (G1785) = φοβέω Θεός καί τηρέω αὑτος εντολή = 1377 + 284 + 31 + 1213 + 971 + 463 = **4339**

Although the words of Ecclesiastes can leave one with a feeling despair, the writer says that there are ways in which to profit from life. In order to have a meaningful and abundant life man must have reverence for God and keep His commandments. *Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him: but it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.* Ecclesiastes 8:12-13.

It is profitable (H3504) **if** (H518) **a man** (H120) **fears** (H3372) **God,** (H430) **and keeps** (H8104) **His commandments.** (H4687)

יתרוֹן אם אדם ירא אלֹהִים שׁמר מצוה

141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 45 + 41 + 666 = **1730**

TO BE MADE RICH / TO HAVE ABUNDANCE (G4147) = πλουτων = **1730**

ABOUND / TO HAVE ABUNDANCE (G4052) = περεσσευουσιν = **1730**

If (H518) **you fear** (H3372) **God** (H430) **and keep** (H8104) **His commandments,** (H4687) **then** (H227) **all** (H3605) **labor** (H5999) **is profitable.** (H3504)

אם ירא אלֹהִים שׁמר מצוה אז כל עמל יתרוֹן

666 + 140 + 50 + 8 + 141 + 540 + 86 + 211 + 41 = **1883**

PROFITABLE (G2173) (root word spelling) = εὔχρηστος = **1883**

The attempt to find significance or contentment in one's life takes many avenues. Some try to find it in their work or hobbies, and others try to find it in the pursuit of pleasure, with indulgence in alcohol, drugs, or sex. Still others look for satisfaction in wealth and possessions, or status among others. The noble pursuit of knowledge is often used to find meaning in life. All of these ways in which people try to find purpose and enjoyment in their lives are mentioned by the Preacher of Ecclesiastes, and for each endeavor he found it to be of no value, because death comes to everyone in the end.

In order to find enjoyment in life, the writer of Ecclesiastes described a simple solution: *Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works. Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment. Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun. Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.* Ecclesiastes 9:7-10. One can find enjoyment in life by the things that are mentioned in this passage of Scripture, but what about finding purpose in life? The writer of Ecclesiastes also discovered that the purpose in life is to fear God: *Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God… For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: but fear thou God.* Ecclesiastes 5:1, 7. *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.* Ecclesiastes 12:15.

In the end, man's life on earth will cease, no matter what he may have accomplished. The Old Testament provides only a shadow of the promise of salvation, resurrection, and eternal life, that is proclaimed in the New Testament. The hope of salvation came with the manifestation of God in the flesh, Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for our sins. The writer of Ecclesiastes implies that at death, the spirit of man returns to God, but says nothing more about what occurs after

death, except that God will judge every work of man: *Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.* Ecclesiastes 12:7. *For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.* Ecclesiastes 12:14.

The concept of life after death is alluded to in several Old Testament passages. In Job it is written: *For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:* Job 19:25-26. A more clear indication that there is more to life than just an earthly existence is given by Daniel's end time prophecy: *And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.* Daniel 12:1-2. Isaiah also wrote of a resurrection of the dead: *Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.* Isaiah 26:19. The writer of Psalms proclaimed a hope for a life after death: *For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others. But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.* Psalms 49:10-15. *Thou, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.* Psalms 71:20.

In the Old Testament, man is told to fear God and keep His commandments in order to have abundance of life on earth. In the New Testament, the mystery of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is proclaimed. Jesus has fulfilled the law for us, and there is now the promise of salvation and resurrection for believers in Christ. *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.* John 3:16-17. Labor for one's self is vanity, but to believe in Jesus Christ, and to labor for His kingdom is not vanity, and has great reward. The reward for acknowledging Jesus Christ as Savior is eternal life: *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.* 1Corinthians 15:51-58.

Life is certainly like a vapor. It is fleeting, and often brings troubles, but there should be no despair. We have now been given the hope of eternal life through faith in Jesus, the one who bore our sins on the cross, and fulfilled the law, so that we are no longer subject to judgment. All is vanity only for those who do not have the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ.