

Ignorance of the Future Demands Diligence in the Present

v. 1-6

**As your investment advisor says,
spread your risk.**

1:2 Divide your
merchandise among seven or even
eight investments,
for you do
not know what calamity may
happen on earth.

Even the weatherman doesn't know
what's next.

3 If the clouds are full of rain, they will
empty themselves on the earth, and
whether a tree falls to the south or to
the north, the tree will lie wherever it
falls. 4 He who watches the wind will
not sow, and he who observes the
clouds will not reap.

The mystery of the world is in God's hands and we cannot understand nor control it.

5 Just as you do not know the path 11 of the wind, or how the bones form in the womb of a pregnant woman, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything.

**Life Should Be Enjoyed Because
Death is Inevitable**

v. 7-8

Enjoy Life to the Fullest under the Fear of God

v. 9-10

Fear God Now Because Old Age and Death Come Quickly

12. 1-7

Hebrew poetry reflections on the
elderly.

v. 2 cataracts come early in bright sunshine

v. 3 Tremors occur in the elderly

loss of bone causes a stooped position
even in those who were mighty

loss of teeth prevents good nutrition

loss of eyesight – presbyopia

v. 4 hearing loss occurs in the elderly

lack of sleep and easy arousal become
problems

v. 5 the aged realize that a fall can be deadly,
they are afraid that young people in the streets
will take advantage of them

almond blossoms progress from pink to
white as they age – as in hair

perhaps locust, but they all last for a year
and become sluggish at the end of their lives

the caperberry, viagra doesn't work
anymore.

Eternal home – used in Hebrew literature
of a cemetery

v. 6 the cord of life – the bowl of life – the end of life and usefulness

v. 7 the spirit [life's breath NET] Ecc 3.19 (LXX *pneuma*)

Concluding Epilogue: Solomon's Advice is Wise

v. 9-11

**Concluding Exhortation: Fear God
and Obey His Commands!**

v. 12-14

12:13 Having heard everything, I have reached this conclusion: Fear God and keep his commandments, because this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God will evaluate every deed, including every secret thing, whether good or evil. (NET)