



# Message



**‘If you see the poor oppressed in a district, and justice and rights denied, do not be surprised at such things; for one official is eyed by a higher one, and over them both are others higher still. The increase from the land is taken by all; the king himself profits from the fields.’**

**(Ecclesiastes 5:8-9: Bureaucracy)**

**‘Whoever loves money never has enough;  
whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with  
their income.**

**This too is meaningless.**

**As goods increase,  
so do those who consume them.**

**And what benefit are they to the owners  
except to feast their eyes on them?’**

**(Ecclesiastes 5:10-11: Materialism)**

**‘The more the words,  
the less the meaning,  
and how does that profit anyone?’**

**(Ecclesiastes 6:11: Debate)**

**‘Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!’**

**(2 Corinthians 5:17)**

**‘I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour,’**

**(1 Timothy 2:1–3)**

**‘Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.’**

**(1 Thessalonians 5:12–15)**

**‘And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.’**

**(1 Thessalonians 5:12–15)**



**‘I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.’**

**(Philippians 4:10–13)**

**‘I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.’**

**(Philippians 4:10–13)**

**‘Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.’**

**(1 Timothy 6:17-19)**

**‘Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.’** (Philippians 2:1–4)

**‘But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.’**

**(1 Peter 3:15–16)**

**And it's from the Old I travel to the New –  
keep me travelling along with you.**

- it's from the Old bureaucracy  
to the New community**
- it's from the Old materialism  
to the New gratitude and generosity**
- it's from the Old debate  
to the New discernment**