Ecclesiastes 1 (ESV)

[1] The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in
Jerusalem.

[2] Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities!
All is vanity. [3] What does man gain by all the toil at
which he toils under the sun? [4] A generation goes, and
a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. [5]
The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to
the place where it rises. [6] The wind blows to the south
and goes around to the north; around and around goes
the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. [7] All
streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the
place where the streams flow, there they flow again. [8]
All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it;
the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled
with hearing.

[9] What has been is what will be, and what has been
done is what will be done, and there is nothing new
under the sun. [10] Is there a thing of which it is said,
“See, this is new”? It has been already in the ages
before us.

Ecclesiastes 1 (ESV)

[11] There is no remembrance of former things, nor will
there be any remembrance of later things yet to be
among those who come after.

[12] I the Preacher have been king over Israel in
Jerusalem. [13] And I applied my heart to seek and to
search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven.
It is an unhappy business that God has given to the
children of man to be busy with. [14] I have seen
everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is
vanity and a striving after wind.

[15] What is crooked cannot be made straight, and what is
lacking cannot be counted.

[16] I said in my heart, “I have acquired great wisdom,
surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and
my heart has had great experience of wisdom and
knowledge.” [17] And I applied my heart to know wisdom
and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this
also is but a striving after wind.

[18] For in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who
increases knowledge increases sorrow.