

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

1 I said to myself, "I should have fun—I should enjoy everything as much as I can." But I learned that this is also useless.

2 It is foolish to laugh all the time. Having fun does not do any good.

3 So I decided to fill my body with wine while I filled my mind with wisdom. I tried this foolishness because I wanted to find a way to be happy. I wanted to see what was good for people to do during their few days of life.

4 Then I began doing great things. I built houses, and I planted vineyards for myself.

5 I planted gardens, and I made parks. I planted all kinds of fruit trees.

6 I made pools of water for myself, and I used them to water my growing trees.

7 I bought men and women slaves, and there were slaves born in my house. I owned many great things. I had herds of cattle and flocks of sheep. I owned more things than any other person in Jerusalem did.

8 I also gathered silver and gold for myself. I took treasures from kings and their nations. I had men and women singing for me. I had everything any man could want.

9 I became very rich and famous. I was greater than anyone who lived in Jerusalem before me. My wisdom was always there to help me.

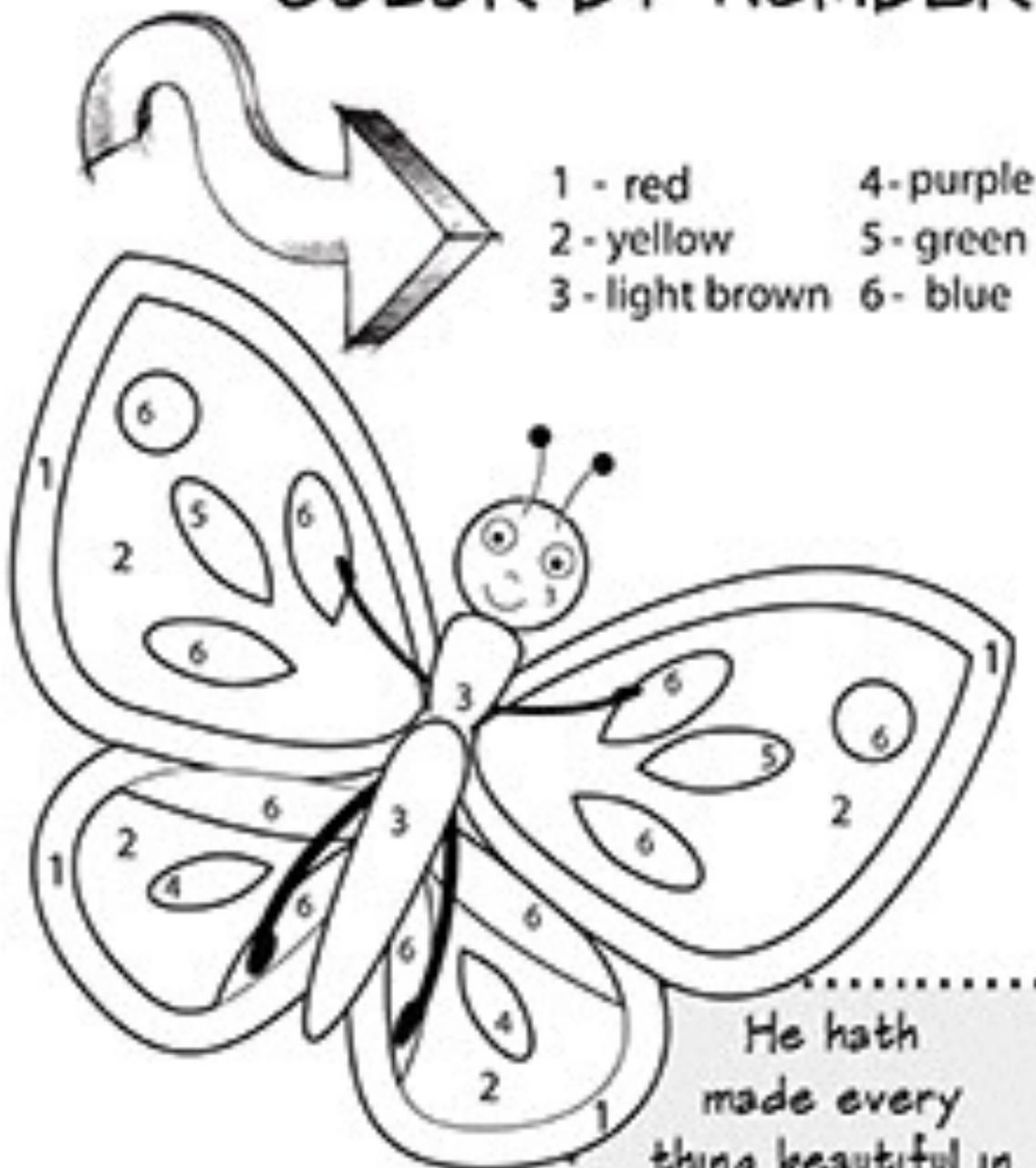
10 Anything my eyes saw and wanted, I got for myself. My mind was pleased with everything I did. And this happiness was the reward for all my hard work.

11 But then I looked at everything I had done and the wealth I had gained. I decided it was all a waste of time! It was like trying to catch the wind.[a] There is nothing to gain from anything we do in this life.

Questions

1. Who is the person who probably wrote Ecclesiastes?
2. What clues are there in the reading that it was this person who wrote it?
3. Does it sound like the author believes in God?
4. What questions does the author ask when he looks around at the world?
5. What is man always trying to do?
6. Can a person find satisfaction and fulfillment outside of God?
7. What is inside us that stops us thinking and understanding as we ought?
8. What does the author try to do to find happiness and satisfaction?
9. Because man can't make it from earth to heaven on his own, what solution does God give instead?
10. What point do we have to come to before we accept God's solution?

COLOR BY NUMBER



He hath
made every
thing beautiful in
his time:
Ecclesiastes 3:11

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Ecclesiastes 3

Q O M B W Z A H N D L N H N R E X
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lose	gain	embracing	ecclesiastes
dance			