

# The Adam

by W.J. Erdman

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*The book is a story of man, focusing on his imperfections, failure, and relationship with God, emphasizing the importance of fearing God and keeping His commandments.*

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 3:10, Ecclesiastes 6:12, Ecclesiastes 7:29, Ecclesiastes 12:13

**Topics:** "Human Nature", "Judgment And Accountability"

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## Description

In this sermon by W.J. Erdman, the focus is on the book of Ecclesiastes, emphasizing the ultimate duty of man to fear God and keep His commandments. The term 'the Adam' is used to represent the entire human race, highlighting the imperfection and failure of humanity in fulfilling this duty. Despite the ideal of man being to fear God and obey His commands, the reality of judgment for both good and evil deeds reveals the inadequacy of man's efforts to earn acceptance before God. The book of Ecclesiastes is portrayed as a reflection on the struggles and uncertainties faced by humanity, rather than the experiences of a wise and unfallen Adam.

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## Transcript

Proof is found in the more literal reading of the Conclusion; "The end of the matter, the whole, let us hear; fear God, and keep His commandments, for this is the whole of man," or "this is the whole man."

The word for man is "the Adam," the generic name of the race. This "whole duty" is truly the ideal man, but the expectation of judgment of things evil as well as of good implies the failure and imperfection of this very Adam; and so for him law and duty can be no ground of acceptance before God. It is, then, the book of man. The word Adam is found more than two score times, while the name of man as an individual but six times, and, as of a mortal, twice.

Already midway in the book we are told plainly it is all about man, Adam, the race: "Whatsoever hath been the name thereof was given long ago, and it is known that it is Adam." But the experiences are not those of Adam, wise and unfallen and at home with God, but of one who knows not " what is good for man in' his life all the days of his vain life, which he spendeth as a shadow."

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