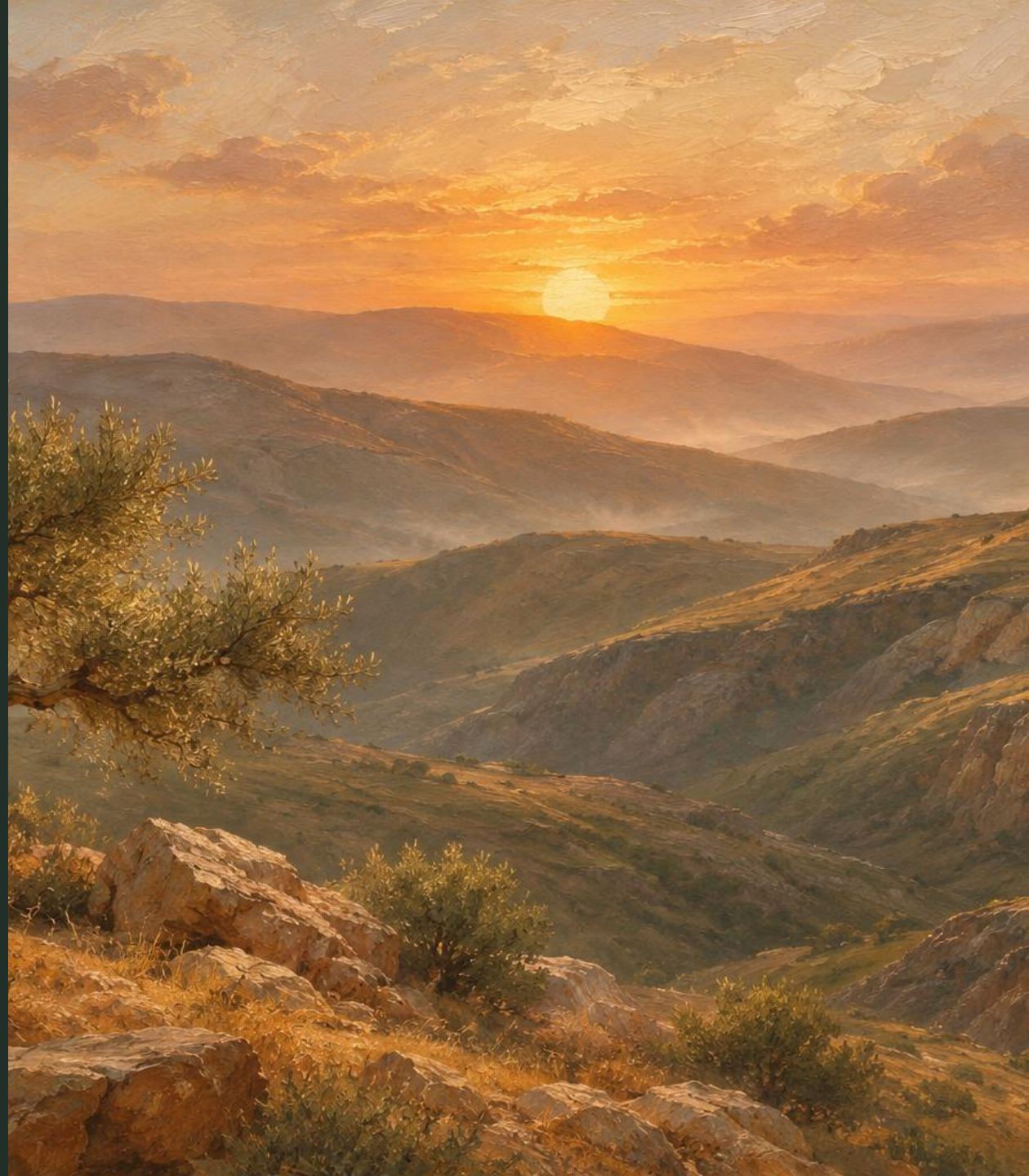
ECCLESIASTES 1:2–3

Life under the sun

“What do people gain from all their labours at which they toil under the sun?”



Hevel

The Hebrew word pictures vapour or smoke.

Life is fleeting and hard to make sense of.



Pleasure and achievement

The Teacher tries pleasure, wealth and great projects.

The pleasure passes. The work goes to someone else.

Time and death

Generations pass. Even great achievements fade.

Wisdom is better than folly, yet both the wise and the foolish die.

ECCLESIASTES 2:24–25 AND 3:12–13

The gift of ordinary joys

A good meal. Time with friends or family.

Satisfaction in the work we do.



The author’s conclusion

“Fear God and keep his commandments”

God will bring every deed into judgement.

Jesus will put things right

He will bring justice and wipe away every tear.

That hope shapes how we live today.