

Ladies Bible Study  
Ecclesiastes, Lesson Seven  
Ecclesiastes 10 & 11  
April 21, 2020

Chapter 10 "A Little Folly is Dangerous"

1. Verse 1 What dead flies are to \_\_\_\_\_ and folly is to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wise person. Dead flies ruin costly perfume and folly ruins a wise man's reputation. Avoid Folly!!
2. Verse 2 The \_\_\_\_\_ inclines a person to either wisdom or folly.
  - a. The Heart is referring to the center of one's life, the \_\_\_\_\_ within us that governs the "issues of life" Proverbs 4:23
  - b. What things are you feeding your heart? What things do you allow to influence your heart and mind?

SOLOMON APPLIES THESE TRUTHS FROM VERSES 1-3 TO FOUR DIFFERENT "FOOLS"

1. **The Foolish Ruler:** Ecc. 10:4-7
  - a. Verse 4 The picture here is of a proud ruler who easily becomes \_\_\_\_\_ and takes out his anger on the workers or people around him.
    - i. Proverbs 16:32 "He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."
    - ii. It says, "do not \_\_\_\_\_ your place." Even though your ruler, your boss, someone who has authority is acting foolish doesn't mean \_\_\_\_\_ have too!!!
    - iii. Proverbs 15:1-3 "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly. The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good."
  - b. Verses 5-7 Foolish rulers put \_\_\_\_\_ people in high positions and the \_\_\_\_\_ people are put in low offices or positions.
2. **The Foolish Workers:** Ecc. 10:8-11
  - a. Common Sense: \_\_\_\_\_ is not so common anymore!
  - b. Verses 8-11 Solomon uses several different examples of a lack of common sense or folly.
    - i. Solomon was describing people who attempt to do their work and suffer because they were foolish. Why? Because they lacked \_\_\_\_\_ and failed to take \_\_\_\_\_ precautions.
    - ii. An incompetent worker will work with a dull ax. Whereas a wise worker will pause in his labor and sharpen it. "Don't work \_\_\_\_\_ -work \_\_\_\_\_!"

- iii. When have you been overconfident and rushed into a project or goal without asking is this what God would have me to do?
- iv. "It's not what I \_\_\_\_\_ I should do. It's not what I think I \_\_\_\_\_ to do. But what does God have for me to do?"
- v. James 1:5 says, "That if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

3. **The Foolish Talkers:** Ecc 10:12-15

- a. Our words reveal our \_\_\_\_\_. What is in the heart will come out through our \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Verse 12 Words of the wise are \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Verse 13 & 14a Foolish talkers love to hear \_\_\_\_\_ talk.
  - i. Proverbs 10:19-21 "The more you talk, the more likely you are to sin. If you are wise, you will keep quiet. A good person's words are like pure silver; but the heart of the wicked, their ideas are worthless. A good person's words will benefit many people, but fools die for lack of sense."
- d. Verse 14b Foolish people talk about the \_\_\_\_\_ as though they either know all about it or are in \_\_\_\_\_ of what will happen.
  - i. Proverbs 27:1 "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth."

4. **The Foolish Officers:** Ecc. 10:16-20

- a. Verses 16 & 17 If the king is \_\_\_\_\_, the people he gathers around him will reflect that immaturity and take advantage of it.
  - i. It matters who you surround yourself with. "Bad company corrupts \_\_\_\_\_ morals."
- b. Verse 18 Immature people \_\_\_\_\_ the privileges and \_\_\_\_\_ the responsibilities, while mature people see the responsibilities as privileges and use them to help others.
- c. Verse 19 This verse declares the personal philosophy of the foolish officers: Eat \_\_\_\_\_ you can, enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ you can, and get \_\_\_\_\_ you can. They are totally indifferent to the responsibilities of their office or the needs of the people.
- d. Verse 20 "A little \_\_\_\_\_ told me"
  - i. Even if we can't respect the person in the office or in charge, we must respect the office. (Romans 13:1-7)

## Chapter 11

### 1. Life is an adventure: live by faith

- a. Verses 1-6 Solomon used 2 activities to illustrate his point that life is an \_\_\_\_\_ and that we must live by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - i. If the merchant and the farmer waited until the circumstances were \_\_\_\_\_, they would never get anything \_\_\_\_\_. Life has a certain amount of risk to it, and that's where \_\_\_\_\_ comes in.
  - ii. "For you do not know" (vv. 2,5,6) We do not know the future, but we must not allow our ignorance to make us \_\_\_\_\_ that we become either careless or paralyzed. Just the opposite, not knowing the future should make us more \_\_\_\_\_ in what we plan and what we do.
- b. Verse 4 "Don't sit around waiting for \_\_\_\_\_ circumstances. If you are looking for an excuse for doing nothing, you will always find one.
- c. Verse 5 Just as nobody knows the " \_\_\_\_\_ " or how a baby is formed in the mother's womb, so nobody knows the \_\_\_\_\_ of God in His creation. God has a time and a purpose for everything, and we must live by faith in His \_\_\_\_\_. Therefore, use each day wisely.

### 2. Life is a gift: enjoy it

- a. Solomon has told us \_\_\_\_\_ times in this book to accept life as a gift and learn to enjoy all that God shares with us. (2:24, 3:12-15,22; 5:18-20; 8:15; 9:7-10)
- b. Verses 7-9 What a \_\_\_\_\_ it is to look forward to each new day and \_\_\_\_\_ it as a fresh gift from God.
- c. Verse 8 Remember the days of \_\_\_\_\_; for they shall be many.
- d. Verse 9 "Follow the ways of your \_\_\_\_\_." This is not a permission slip to sow your wild \_\_\_\_\_. While you are young. God will bring all this into \_\_\_\_\_.
  - i. Rather it is a reminder to enjoy the special pleasures that belong to being \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. Verse 10 We must put away \_\_\_\_\_ from your \_\_\_\_\_; and cast off the \_\_\_\_\_ of your body.
  - i. 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."
  - ii. Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."
  - iii. Matthew 6:25-27;34 <sup>25</sup> "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? <sup>27</sup> Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

<sup>34</sup>Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

## Ecclesiastes, Ladies Bible Study

For Lesson 8, April 28, 2020

### Read Ecclesiastes 12

- This is Solomon's last chapter, his last urgent plea, from verse 1, of chapter 12, what is the one thing we should remember?
- The fact that He is your Creator, that He is the Creator, should be settled at what stage of your life?

It should be settled at this age because it will be harder when we are older, a little more stubborn and heard and believed all the arguments against a Creator.

- Solomon pictures old age as a \_\_\_\_\_, that is falling apart over time. It has windows that are dim and doors that will not shut, are a few examples.
- 12:7, says we will return to what? \_\_\_\_\_. Look up Genesis 2:7. How did God form man? What were the two ingredients?
- From 12:11, God's Word pierces the heart. Look up Hebrews 4:12, What is the Word of God described as?
- In conclusion, verses 13 and 14, what are the last three instructions Solomon gives to his readers?  
The first two are active: I must \_\_\_\_\_ God, I must \_\_\_\_\_ His commandments. The last one is, to live in such a way, knowing that every act will be \_\_\_\_\_, everything hidden, whether good or evil.