



GETTING THE MOST FROM THE MIST VALUING WISDOM IN A FOOLISH WORLD

ECCLESIASTES 9:13-10:20

Ben Blakey - Compass Bible Church - April 23 & 24, 2022

1. Always _____

Ecclesiastes 9:13–10:20 (ESV)

13 I have also seen this example of wisdom under the sun, and it seemed great to me. 14 There was a little city with few men in it, and a great king came against it and besieged it, building great siegeworks against it. 15 But there was found in it a poor, wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that poor man. 16 But I say that wisdom is better than might, though the poor man's wisdom is despised and his words are not heard. 17 The words of the wise heard in quiet are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools. 18 Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good. 10:1 Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor. 2 A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left. 3 Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool. 4 If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest. 5 There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler: 6 folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place. 7 I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves. 8 He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall. 9 He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them. 10 If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed. 11 If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer. 12 The words of a wise man's mouth win him favor, but the lips of a fool consume him. 13 The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end of his talk is evil madness. 14 A fool multiplies words, though no man knows what is to be, and who can tell him what will be after him? 15 The toil of a fool wearies him, for he does not know the way to the city. 16 Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning! 17 Happy are you, O land, when your king is the son of the nobility, and your princes feast at the proper time, for strength, and not for drunkenness! 18 Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence the house leaks. 19 Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life, and money answers everything. 20 Even in your thoughts, do not curse the king, nor in your bedroom curse the rich, for a bird of the air will carry your voice, or some winged creature tell the matter.

2. Don't _____

3. Overcome _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. **Read James 3:17.** What are some of the ways you have benefited from the fruit of wisdom in your life? How does this help you see the superiority of wisdom to any alternative?

2. **Read Ecclesiastes 10:2.** As we are reminded that wisdom really flows from our hearts, what are some of the desires of your heart that you will have to fight against as you pursue a life well-lived?

3. **Read Ecclesiastes 10:8-11.** As you think about working with wisdom, what are some wrong motives you might need to watch out for that could cause you to work in a careless or foolish way? What are some practical ways you could “work smarter” as opposed to just working harder?

4. **Read Psalm 141:3 & Ephesians 4:29.** What are some ways you may need to guard your lips from foolish talk or words from failing to build up or give grace?

5. **Read Philippians 4:4-6.** How is living with joy possible in a world where foolishness causes so much destruction? What are some theological truths that will help us to live this way? What are some of the godly ways we can deal with the foolishness we see all around us as opposed to merely getting angry?

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Here are some books which may help you dig deeper into what we studied today. While Pastor Ben cannot endorse everything about each book/author, he does think these books are worth considering and reading.

Gibson, David. *Living Life Backward*. Crossway, 2017.

Lutzer, Erwin. *We Will Not Be Silenced*. Harvest House Publishers, 2020.

Wiersbe, Warren. *Be Satisfied*. Victor Books, 1990.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that we would possess true wisdom that flows from a right heart.

Pray that our lives would demonstrate the fruit of wisdom to those around us.

Pray for our leaders and authorities to show wisdom in their actions.

Continue to pray for fruit from Resurrection Week at Compass Bible Church.

Pray that God will provide a long-term home for CBCTV through the Taking Ground project.

REVIVAL FROM THE BIBLE READING

Date	Old Testament	New Testament
4/25	1 Samuel 4-8	Matthew 23:16-39, Mark 12:41-44, Luke 21:1-4
4/26	1 Samuel 9-12	Matthew 24:1-14, Mark 13:1-13, Luke 21:5-19
4/27	1 Sam 13-14	Matthew 24:15-28, Mark 13:14-23, Luke 21:20-24
4/28	1 Samuel 15-16	Matthew 24:29-41, Mark 13:24-32, Luke 21:25-33
4/29	1 Samuel 17-18, Psalm 11	Matthew 24:42-51, Mark 13:33-37, Luke 21:34-36
4/30	1 Samuel 19-20, Psalm 59	Matthew 25:1-30