

# Ecclesiastes 10

## LESSON 11

### Living with Fools

#### 1. Ecclesiastes 9:13-18

- a. Wisdom is valuable, but vulnerable... to sin, injustice, death, chance, here folly
- b. Wisdom better than strength and weapons, but is foiled by fools – Pro 1:7
- c. 9:17 – Fools think truth = loud, repeat, bold, sincere - 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of Ecc fools are here
- d. 9:18 - “one sinner” – one bad apple ruins the bushel... thank God for Rom 5:15

#### 2. Ecclesiastes 10:1-20

- a. **10:1-4 – How to know a fool** – Pro 1:7, How to answer one - Pro 26:4-5
  - i. 10:1 - It's easier to make a stink than to keep it sweet.
  - ii. 10:2 – A wise man desires to walk in a right right, a fool desires weakness
  - iii. 10:3 – “became vain in their imaginations” - Rom 1:21-22 is Ecclesiastes
  - iv. 10:4 – A fool runs, or reacts rashly. A wise man has a soft answer – Pro 15:1
  - v. You know them by their fruit, their desires, their walk, their words/reaction
- b. **10:5-7 – A great evil: dignifying folly**
  - i. Folly in a position of dignity and honor stinks – Pr 19:10, 26:1, 28:12, 30:21
  - ii. 10:7 – This is what Christ did, it was a low reputation (prince and pauper)
- c. **10:8-11 – Foolish actions** – imprudent, careless, waster (lazy), biting words
  - i. 10:8 – The pit that he falls into– Ps 7:14-16, 9:15, 35:6-8;
    - 1. Haman built the gallows that would hang himself – Esther 5:14, 7:10
    - 2. Serpents – Amo 5:18-20, Jer 8:17, Acts 28:4
  - ii. 10:9 – Are these accidents or the consequence of choices – Deu
    - 1. Breaking the law? – Deu 19:14, Deu 27:17, Pro 23:10
  - iii. 10:10 – Work smarter not harder, right? Pro 18:9
  - iv. 10:11 – Ro 3:13-18, Jam 3:8; vain babbling and repetitions–1Ti 6:20, Mt 6:7
- d. **10:12-15 – Foolish talking** instead of words of grace – Col 4:6
  - i. Words can give life or kill - Pro 10:21, 12:13, Pro 16:21-24
  - ii. 10:13 – It starts out harmless (prating) then it gets dangerous
  - iii. 10:14 – He speaks about things he knows not about – Col 2:18, Pro 10:19
  - iv. 10:15 – Their labour is spent in vain without knowledge
- e. **10:16-20 – Wise advice**
  - i. 10:16-17 – The land can be blessed/cursed by fools... or not
  - ii. 10:18 – Maintain your house (country, family, body)
  - iii. 10:19 – Make money (to answer good times and bad)
  - iv. 10:20 – Don't speak evil of any man
  - v. Look ahead to the future, work hard, provide for yourself, and don't knock others down to get ahead.