

INTRODUCTION

- * Throughout our study of the book of Ecclesiastes, we have continually dealt with Solomon's flawed fatalistic philosophy of life as he considers everything in life - under the sun - as pure vanity and a grasping for the wind.
- * At the end of last week's message, Solomon turned to the topic of wisdom as part of his illustration of a small city that was delivered from a great siege, laid by a great king, through the wisdom of a poor wise man. He continues to share the importance of not neglecting wisdom - and the application of wisdom - in the affairs of life.
- * Wisdom is the ability to use knowledge and experience to make good decisions and judgments. It involves discernment and the capacity to understand complex life situations.
- * Prudence is the ability to govern and discipline oneself by use of reason. It is knowing how to avoid embarrassment or stress, and having discretion in practical affairs.
- * Prudence is the practical application of wisdom in the affairs of life.
- * Today, we want to examine how we should "Remember Our Creator in Our Application of Wisdom ... or in Our Prudence."

INSTRUCTION

- I. P _____ (9:13-18) ... In the discernment of solutions**
- * cf. Proverbs 24:5-6; 21:22
- II. P _____ (9:18b - 10:3) ... In the preservation of honor**
- A. The De _____ of Sin** (cf. Romans 6:23a; 1 Corinthians 15:33)
1. ONE SINNER CAN DESTROY MUCH GOOD
 2. ONE ACT OF FOLLY CAN DESTROY A GREAT REPUTATION (cf. Nehemiah 13:26)
- B. The De _____ of Folly** (v. 2-3)
- III. P _____ (10:4-7) ... In the bestowment of honor**
- A. As The S _____: Do Not L _____!** (v. 4)
1. THE NEED FOR RE _____
 2. THE CALL FOR RE _____ (cf. Matthew 5:9; Romans 12:18; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Hebrews 12:14)
- B. As The R _____: Do Not H _____!** (v. 5-7; cf. Judges 9:6-20)
- IV. V _____ (10:8-10) ... In what you put your hand to**
- A. Using Proper P _____ in Your Work** (v. 8-10)
- B. Using Proper M _____ in Your Work** (v. 10)
- V. V _____ (10:11-15) ... In your words**
- A. The Words of the W _____** (v. 12)
- B. The Words of the F _____** (v. 10)
- VI. I _____ (10:16-20) ... In your use of time**
- A. The Call to D _____** (v. 12)
- B. The Warning Against I _____** (cf. Proverbs 26:13-16; 24:30-34)

INTROSPECTION

- * What does your life demonstrate in regards to the application of wisdom? Are you a doer of the Word or just a hearer?
- * In which area of your life do you need to grow in wisdom and prudence the most?
- * What are you willing to do in order to make that happen?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * How can we best assist one another in walking in wisdom and prudence? How can we prepare ourselves for being held accountable, or receiving input from others? How can we lovingly communicate with someone else their need for change?