



# ECCLESIASTES

*Discovering Life in the Land of Death*



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 ESV

<sup>11</sup> Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. <sup>12</sup> For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 ESV

<sup>13</sup> I have also seen this example of wisdom under the sun, and it seemed great to me. <sup>14</sup> There was a little city with few men in it, and a great king came against it and besieged it, building great siege works against it. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> But I say that wisdom is better than might, though the poor man's wisdom is despised and his words are not heard. <sup>17</sup> The words of the wise heard in quiet are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools. <sup>18</sup> Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 ESV

<sup>1</sup> Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honour. <sup>2</sup> A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left. <sup>3</sup> Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool.



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 ESV

<sup>4</sup> If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest.<sup>5</sup> There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler: <sup>6</sup> folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place. <sup>7</sup> I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves. <sup>8</sup> He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall.



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 ESV

<sup>9</sup> He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them. <sup>10</sup> If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed. <sup>11</sup> If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer.



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 ESV

<sup>12</sup> The words of a wise man's mouth win him favour, but the lips of a fool consume him. <sup>13</sup> The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end of his talk is evil madness. <sup>14</sup> A fool multiplies words, though no man knows what is to be, and who can tell him what will be after him? <sup>15</sup> The toil of a fool wearies him, for he does not know the way to the city. <sup>16</sup> Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning!



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 ESV

<sup>17</sup> 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! <sup>18</sup> Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence the house leaks. <sup>19</sup> Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life, and money answers everything. <sup>20</sup> 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



# Life Is Unpredictable



## Ecclesiastes 9:11-12

<sup>11</sup> Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. <sup>12</sup> For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.



# 1. The Power Of Wisdom



## Ecclesiastes 9:13-18

<sup>13</sup> I have also seen this example of wisdom under the sun, and it seemed great to me. <sup>14</sup> There was a little city with few men in it, and a great king came against it and besieged it, building great siege works against it. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> But I say that wisdom is better than might, though the poor man's wisdom is despised and his words are not heard. <sup>17</sup> The words of the wise heard in quiet are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools. <sup>18</sup> Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.

# 2. The Enemy Of Wisdom



## **Ecclesiastes 10:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honour. <sup>2</sup> A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left. <sup>3</sup> Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool.

# 3. The Practicality Of Wisdom



## Ecclesiastes 10:4-11

<sup>4</sup> If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest.<sup>5</sup> There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler: <sup>6</sup> folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place. <sup>7</sup> I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves. <sup>8</sup> He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall.



# 1 Timothy 2:2

*[pray] for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”*

# 3. The Practicality Of Wisdom



## **Ecclesiastes 10:4-11**

<sup>9</sup> He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them. <sup>10</sup> If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed. <sup>11</sup> If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer.

# 3. The Practicality Of Wisdom



## **Ecclesiastes 10:18-19**

<sup>18</sup> Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence the house leaks. <sup>19</sup> Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life, and money answers everything.



# 4. The Sound Of Wisdom



## Ecclesiastes 10:12-17

<sup>12</sup> The words of a wise man's mouth win him favour, but the lips of a fool consume him. <sup>13</sup> The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end of his talk is evil madness. <sup>14</sup> A fool multiplies words, though no man knows what is to be, and who can tell him what will be after him? <sup>15</sup> The toil of a fool wearies him, for he does not know the way to the city. <sup>16</sup> Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning!

# 4. The Sound Of Wisdom



## **Ecclesiastes 10:12-17,20**

<sup>17</sup> 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!

<sup>20</sup> 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.



## Revelation 7:10-12

“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” <sup>11</sup> And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”