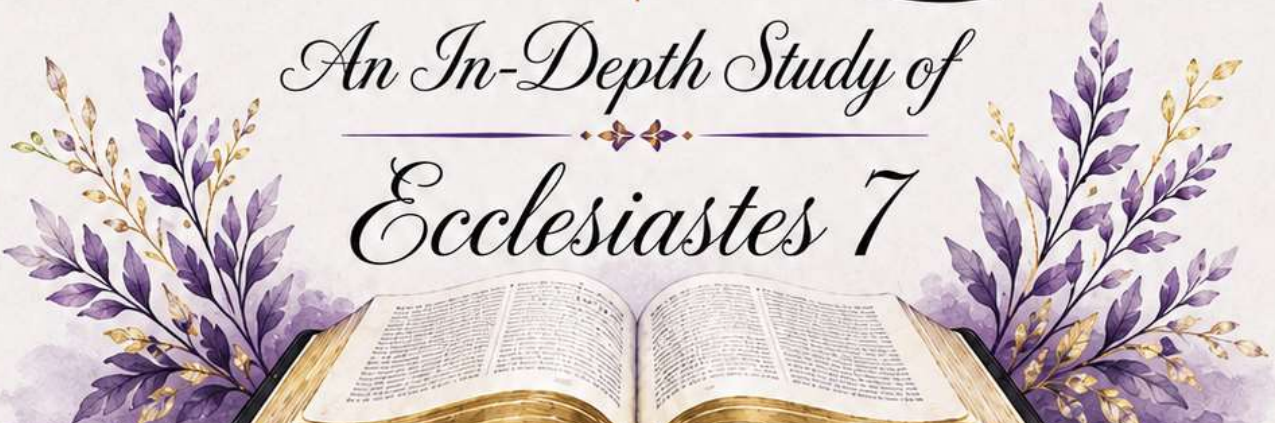




# Wisdom That Lasts



*An In-Depth Study of  
Ecclesiastes 7*



*"Better is the end of a thing than the beginning of it:  
and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.*

*~ Ecclesiastes 7:8 ~*

# Ecclesiastes 7:1–3 — A Good Name Is Better

*Workbook Study Page*

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:1–3

**Theme:** God values character over comfort and eternity over temporary happiness.

## Fill in the Blank

1. A good \_\_\_\_\_ is better than precious ointment. (v.1)
2. God is more concerned with our \_\_\_\_\_ than our popularity.
3. The day of \_\_\_\_\_ is better than the day of one's birth.
4. The house of \_\_\_\_\_ is better than the house of feasting.
5. The heart of the wise is found in the house of \_\_\_\_\_.

## Bible Study Questions

6. Why do you think Solomon says a good name is worth more than expensive perfume?

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7. What kind of reputation should every Christian strive to leave behind?

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8. Why can seasons of grief produce more spiritual growth than seasons of celebration?

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9. According to verse 2, what does a funeral remind us about life?

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10. List three words you hope describe your Christian testimony.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

11. What area of your life is God using to build your character today?

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## Key Truth

*God is far more interested in building your character than simply making your life comfortable.*

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# Ecclesiastes 7:4–6 — The Heart of the Wise

*Workbook Study Page*

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:4–6

**Theme:** Godly wisdom welcomes loving correction and values eternal truth over empty entertainment.

## Fill in the Blank

1. The heart of the wise is in the house of \_\_\_\_\_. (v.4)
2. The heart of fools is in the house of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It is better to hear the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wise. (v.5)
4. The song of \_\_\_\_\_ cannot produce lasting wisdom.
5. The laughter of fools is compared to the crackling of \_\_\_\_\_ under a pot. (v.6)

## Bible Study Questions

6. Why do wise people welcome correction instead of resisting it?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the difference between constructive rebuke and harsh criticism?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What does the illustration of crackling thorns teach about temporary pleasure?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. How can entertainment distract us from spiritual growth?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Who has God used to lovingly correct or mentor you?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Key Truth

*Wise people do not fear correction—they receive it with humility because they desire to become more like Christ.*

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# Ecclesiastes 7:7–10 — Patience Over Pride

*Workbook Study Page*

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:7–10

**Theme:** Guard your heart against corruption, pride, anger, and longing for an imagined past. God's wisdom teaches patience and trust.

## Fill in the Blank

1. Surely \_\_\_\_\_ maketh a wise man mad. (v.7)
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ destroys the heart.
3. Better is the \_\_\_\_\_ of a thing than the beginning thereof. (v.8)
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.
5. Do not say, 'Why were the \_\_\_\_\_ days better than these?' (v.10)

## Bible Study Questions

6. How can oppression or injustice tempt someone away from wisdom?

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7. Why does Solomon warn about accepting bribes?

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8. Why is finishing well often more important than starting well?

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9. What does it mean to be patient in spirit instead of proud?

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10. How can constantly wishing for 'the good old days' keep us from trusting what God is doing today?

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## Key Truth

*Godly wisdom looks forward with faith instead of backward with regret, choosing patience over pride and trust over complaint.*

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# Ecclesiastes 7:11–14 — Wisdom, Prosperity, and Adversity

## *Extended Workbook Study*

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:11–14

**Theme:** God's wisdom teaches us to trust Him in both prosperous and difficult seasons, knowing He is at work in each.

### Fill in the Blank

1. Wisdom is good with an \_\_\_\_\_. (v.11)
2. Wisdom is a \_\_\_\_\_. (v.12)
3. Consider the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (v.13)
4. In the day of prosperity be \_\_\_\_\_. (v.14)
5. In the day of adversity \_\_\_\_\_.

### Cross-Reference & Bible Study Questions

6. Why does Solomon compare wisdom to an inheritance?

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7. What does it mean to 'consider the work of God' when life doesn't make sense?

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8. How does Paul's thorn (2 Corinthians 12:7–10) illustrate learning to trust God's wisdom instead of demanding immediate relief?

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9. How did Jacob's limp (Genesis 32:24–31) become a lifelong reminder of dependence upon God rather than a mark of defeat?

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10. What lesson can we learn from Moses' speech difficulty (Exodus 4:10–12) about God using our weaknesses for His glory?

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11. How can prosperity become spiritually dangerous if we stop depending on God?

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12. What attitude should believers have during seasons of adversity according to verse 14?

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13. Name one difficult season in Scripture that ultimately produced God's greater purpose.

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## Key Truth

*God uses both blessings and burdens to shape His people. His wisdom is displayed not only in what He gives, but also in what He allows.*

[illegible]

# Ecclesiastes 7:15–18 — Avoiding Extremes

## Workbook Study Page

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:15–18

**Theme:** Solomon warns against self-righteousness, reckless wickedness, and trusting in ourselves instead of fearing God.

### Fill in the Blank

1. I have seen the \_\_\_\_\_ perish in his righteousness. (v.15)
2. The wicked sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ in their wickedness.
3. Be not righteous \_\_\_\_\_. (v.16)
4. Be not over much \_\_\_\_\_. (v.17)
5. He that \_\_\_\_\_ God shall come forth of them all. (v.18)

### Bible Study & Application Questions

6. What does Solomon mean by 'righteous over much'? What attitude is he warning against?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. How is biblical righteousness different from self-righteousness?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Why is it dangerous to assume that outward religion always reflects inward holiness?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What warning does verse 17 give about deliberately choosing sin?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. How does the fear of the Lord help us avoid both pride and rebellion?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Which New Testament passage reminds us that salvation is by grace rather than self-effort?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Describe a Bible character who struggled with self-righteousness or legalism. What can we learn?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. How can Christians pursue holiness without becoming judgmental?  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. What area of your life needs greater humility before God?  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Write one practical step you can take this week to walk in humble obedience.  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Key Truth

*God does not call us to trust our own goodness or excuse our sin. He calls us to walk humbly, fear Him, and depend on His grace every day.*

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# Ecclesiastes 7:19–22 — Wisdom, Criticism, and Forgiveness

## Workbook Study Page

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:19–22

**Theme:** God's wisdom strengthens us, reminds us that no one is sinless, and teaches us to respond to criticism with humility and grace.

### Fill in the Blank

1. Wisdom strengthens the \_\_\_\_\_ more than ten mighty men. (v.19)
2. There is not a just man upon earth, that doeth \_\_\_\_\_ and sinneth not. (v.20)
3. Do not give your \_\_\_\_\_ to every word that is spoken. (v.21)
4. You know in your own \_\_\_\_\_ that you have spoken against others. (v.22)
5. Because everyone sins, we all stand in need of God's \_\_\_\_\_.

### Bible Study & Application Questions

6. How does godly wisdom make a believer stronger than human strength alone?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Why is verse 20 an important reminder for every Christian?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. How does remembering our own failures help us forgive others?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Why does Solomon warn us not to listen to every criticism?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What kinds of criticism should we ignore, and what kinds should we prayerfully consider?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. How can pride make criticism harder to receive?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What Bible character responded well after receiving correction?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. How does the Gospel encourage us to extend forgiveness instead of holding grudges?  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. Is there someone you need to forgive this week? Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. What truth from these verses challenged you the most?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Key Truth

*Wise people remember that everyone needs grace. Because God has forgiven us, we can receive correction humbly and extend forgiveness freely.*

[illegible]

# Ecclesiastes 7:23–28 — Solomon's Search for Wisdom

## Workbook Study Page

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:23–28

**Theme:** Even the wisest man discovered that human wisdom has limits. True understanding begins with humility before God rather than confidence in ourselves.

## Fill in the Blank

1. I said, 'I will be \_\_\_\_\_,' but it was far from me. (v.23)
2. That which is far off and exceeding \_\_\_\_\_, who can find it out? (v.24)
3. I applied my heart to know, to search, and to seek out \_\_\_\_\_. (v.25)
4. I found more bitter than death the woman whose heart is \_\_\_\_\_ and nets. (v.26)
5. God made mankind \_\_\_\_\_, but they have sought out many inventions (schemes). (v.29 preview)

## Bible Study & Discussion Questions

6. Why could even Solomon not fully grasp all of God's wisdom?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What does this passage teach us about the limitations of human understanding?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Why is humility essential for anyone seeking biblical wisdom?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What warning is Solomon giving about seductive temptation in verse 26?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. How does James 1:5 encourage believers who lack wisdom?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What is the difference between worldly wisdom and godly wisdom?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Why do people often search everywhere except God for life's answers?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. How does this section prepare us for Solomon's conclusion in verse 29?  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. What area of your life requires you to trust God even when you don't understand?  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Write one truth from today's study that you want to remember this week.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Key Truth

*The deeper we seek God's wisdom, the more we recognize our dependence upon Him. Human knowledge reaches its limits, but God's wisdom never does.*

[illegible]

# Ecclesiastes 7:29 — God Made Man Upright

## Workbook Study Page

**Read:** Ecclesiastes 7:29

**Theme:** God's original design for humanity was righteousness. Sin entered through mankind's own choices, but God's desire has always been to restore people to Himself.

## Fill in the Blank

1. God made man \_\_\_\_\_. (v.29)
2. People have sought out many \_\_\_\_\_. (schemes/devices)
3. God's design was \_\_\_\_\_, not corruption.
4. Sin entered because of \_\_\_\_\_ choices.
5. Jesus came to restore what \_\_\_\_\_ had broken.

## Bible Study & Application Questions

6. What does the word 'upright' tell us about God's original creation?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. How does Genesis 1–3 help explain Ecclesiastes 7:29?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What are some 'schemes' or sinful paths people pursue instead of God's way?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Why is it important to remember that God is not the author of sin?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. How does Romans 5 compare Adam's failure with Christ's obedience?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What does this verse teach us about personal responsibility?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. How does salvation restore God's image in believers?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. What area of your life needs to be brought back into alignment with God's design?  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. What truth from Ecclesiastes 7 has impacted you the most?  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Write one commitment you want to make as you finish this chapter.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Key Truth

*God created humanity to walk with Him in righteousness. Though sin distorted His design, His grace still calls us back to a life of wisdom, holiness, and faithful obedience.*

[illegible]

## Digging Deeper

Use this page to record additional cross references, Hebrew or Greek word studies, historical insights, and truths the Lord highlights during class.

Suggested passages: Genesis 3, Proverbs 1–9, James 1, Romans 5, 2 Corinthians 12, Exodus 4, and Psalm 90.

## Notes

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## Memory Verses

Write out key verses from Ecclesiastes 7 in your own handwriting.

Suggested verses: 7:1, 7:8, 7:12, 7:14, 7:20, and 7:29.

## Notes

[illegible]

## Personal Reflection

How has God spoken to you through Ecclesiastes 7?

What attitudes, habits, or perspectives is He asking you to change?

## Notes

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# Prayer Journal

Turn the truths of Ecclesiastes 7 into personal prayer.

Record requests, answers to prayer, and commitments.

## Notes

[illegible]

## Sermon & Class Notes

Additional space for notes from class discussions, sermons, or personal study.

## Notes

[illegible]

## Walking in Wisdom

### Action Steps:

- One truth I will remember
- One sin I will avoid
- One relationship I will strengthen
- One act of obedience I will practice this week

## Notes

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