

Ecclesiastes 8:1-17

Day 1: Obey Authority

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 8:1-9, Romans 13:1-2

Meditation: I won't say it will never happen, but it's hard to get in trouble when you are obeying the rules. We are taught by Solomon and Paul that anyone who obeys the laws of the land is wise. The reason for this is because God has established them as such authority for that season of your life. This is something for us to remember in all aspects of our life...from the government to your job, to your home and at school. Everyone in authority is in such because God has allowed it. Therefore, we should be willing to obey the rules even if we don't like it.

Reflection: We understand that God is in control and that is why we are to be obedient. Since this is the case, there are rare instances when we should not obey the rules of the land. When would this be the case? Have you ever wondered why God places certain people in positions of control? What do we gain, by obeying their rules?

Prayer: If you are uncertain of what the future holds with your job, family, or even this nation, pray to God to give you the strength to continue to be an obedient witness by obeying the laws that do not go against His Word.

Day 2: Why do the wicked sometimes succeed?

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 8:10-14

Meditation: There is a Spanish proverb that says, "spider webs catch the flies while letting the hawks go free", this applies to these verses very well. There are times in our life when we will see injustice and inequality around us. You will see some good people pass away early and some bad people live a long life. What we are to do as the saved is the best we can to prevent this. Either through elections, passing laws or speaking up. But until Christ comes again, we will always see this around us.

Reflection: What do think the Spanish proverb is trying to say? Think back to a time in which you saw something happen that you knew wasn't right. How did you react? Are there things you wish you had done differently?

Prayer: Ask God for boldness to stand up against inequity that occurs around you. Pray that Godly people are put into positions of authority all around you.

Day 3: Continue to walk your walk

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 8:15-17

Meditation: When times get difficult, we can find ourselves not wanting to do much of anything. Solomon wants us to understand that even when there are uncertainties around us, we can still honor God by living a godly life. The best understanding is to know you won't always have the answer.

Reflection: How hard can it be to follow someone when you don't know their thought process? Are you someone who struggles to give up control because you feel as though you need it?

Prayer: Ask God to give you peace even though you may be living in uncertain times.