

ECCLESIASTES  
9:11-16

NO NEW  
AUDIENCE

DECEMBER 15,  
2019

INTRO

E-1-A

AESOP - WISDOM

Not just knowing, but applying  
"the capacity to understand and so have skill in living"

WISDOM'S BACKGROUND - ECCLESIASTES 9:11-12 | Review

- ⓔ Re-establishing "under the sun"
  - not how it should be, how it is
- v.12 - Often things work out for the prepared, BUT NOT ALWAYS
  - why? TIME + CHANCE
- v.13 - We don't know our time
  - His return, our death, our downfall
  - all comes suddenly

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Private world  
if we put all stock  
into being strong,  
swift, etc.,  
we are crushed  
when time + chance  
take it from us.

- ⓐ - Solomon is setting the stage
  - It is good to prepare, get strong, etc.
  - BUT THIS DOESN'T GUARANTEE ANYTHING.
- ⇒ How much do we allow God, time, + chance into our planning? James 4:13-16
- ⇒ TIME + CHANCE ARE A GRACE otherwise, we boast in strength + ability, not in God.

WISDOM'S BOLSTERING - ECCLESIASTES 9:13-15

- ⓔ EXAMPLE/ILLUSTRATION OF THIS POINT
- v.13 - HERE IS EXAMPLE OF WISDOM
- v.14 - Little city, few men v. great king, many
- v.15 - PAINT PICTURES - counsel obtained, city destroyed
- ⇒ something small made BIG DIFFERENCE

Ⓛ AQUAMIRA

- ⓐ - By world's standard, war was lost but one thing made difference ⇒ WISDOM.
- ⇒ What economy are we using to determine strength or success?
- ⇒ Wisdom was the substance here - if we have all things in v.11 but no wisdom to steward, what do we have?

WISDOM'S BENEFIT - ECCLESIASTES 9:16-18

- ⓔ LESSONS FROM EXAMPLE
- v.16a - WISDOM IS MEEK, BUT POWERFUL
  - Sharp blade
- v.17 - WISDOM IS QUIET, BUT EFFECTIVE
  - W PROBABLY NOT LOWEST VALUE
  - EASY FOR NOISE TO MOVE FOLKS
  - WHAT VOICE ARE YOU LISTENING TO?
- WISDOM IS BENEFICIAL, BUT IGNORED
- ECCLESIASTES 9:15,16,18
- ⇒ WISDOM CAN DO MUCH GOOD, BUT A LITTLE FOUL CAN DESTROY
- ⇒ LANGUAGE = URGENCY
- SO... DO NOT IGNORE WISDOM, SEEK + CHERISH WISDOM
- PROV. 1-10 - BE ALL ABOUT WISDOM
- PROVERBS 8:22-36

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- ⓐ QUESTION: WHERE DO WE GET WISDOM?
  - much offered in world
  - PROVERBS 1:7 - Beginning of knowledge
  - JAMES 3:17 - TRUE WISDOM FROM GOD - where it's from, what it looks like
  - SO HOW? - Don't gloss.
- Ⓛ WORDS - PSALM 14:7
- Ⓛ PRAYER - JAMES 1:5 - Ask for it - learn to hear voice
- Ⓛ OTHERS - PROVERBS 11:14  
PROVERBS 12:15  
PROVERBS 15:22  
PROVERBS 20:16  
PROVERBS 24:6
- Don't reject due to
  - Ⓛ Experience
  - Ⓛ Age
  - Ⓛ Maturity
  - (In church - we must weigh carefully)
- What audience are you living for? we compromise wisdom when we're for false self to impress others as like the other
- CHRIST DIED FOR NEW LIFE - This isn't our home, but he died that our minds might be born.



### Aesop For Children (The Old Lion and The Fox)

An old Lion, whose teeth and claws were so worn that it was not so easy for him to get food as in his younger days, pretended that he was sick. He took care to let all his neighbors know about it, and then lay down in his cave to wait for visitors. And when they came to offer him their sympathy, he ate them up one by one.

The Fox came too, but he was very cautious about it. Standing at a safe distance from the cave, he inquired politely after the Lion's health. The Lion replied that he was very ill indeed, and asked the Fox to step in for a moment. But Master Fox very wisely stayed outside, thanking the Lion very kindly for the invitation.

"I should be glad to do as you ask," he added, "but I have noticed that there are many footprints leading into your cave and none coming out. Pray tell me, how do your visitors find their way out again?"

**James 4:13-16**

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

**Proverbs 8:32-36**

"And now, O sons, listen to me:  
blessed are those who keep my ways.  
Hear instruction and be wise,  
and do not neglect it.  
Blessed is the one who listens to me,  
watching daily at my gates,  
waiting beside my doors.  
For whoever finds me finds life  
and obtains favor from the LORD,  
but he who fails to find me injures himself;  
all who hate me love death."

**Proverbs 1:7**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**James 3:17**

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

**Psalms 19:7**

The law of the LORD is perfect,<sup>[a]</sup>  
reviving the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure,  
making wise the simple;

**James 1:5**

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.