

“Don’t Be Foolish!”

Ecclesiastes 10:1-7

September 23, 2026

- I. It doesn’t take much folly to ruin one’s good reputation or spoil one’s future, so be _____ .

“As dead flies give perfume a bad smell, so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.”

Ecclesiastes 10:1 (NIV)

“A good name is better than fine perfume...”

Ecclesiastes 7:1a (NIV)

“Pleasing is the fragrance of your perfumes; your name is like perfume poured out. No wonder the young women love you!”

Song of Songs 1:3 (NIV)

“Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom.”

Song of Songs 2:15 (NIV)

- II. The wise _____ God but the foolish _____ God.

“The heart of the wise inclines to the right, but the heart of the fool to the left.”

Ecclesiastes 10:2 (NIV)

"I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken."

Psalms 16:8 (NIV)

"The Lord is at your right hand; he will crush kings on the day of his wrath."

Psalms 110:5 (NIV)

"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God."

Colossians 3:1 (NIV)

(Romans 1:18-25)

III. When a person is foolish, it will eventually _____ itself as foolishness.

"Even as fools walk along the road, they lack sense and show everyone how stupid they are."

Ecclesiastes 10:3 (NIV)

"The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly."

Proverbs 15:2 (NIV)

IV. When someone offends you be slow to _____ and remain _____.

"If a ruler's anger rises against you, do not leave your post; calmness can lay great offenses to rest."

Ecclesiastes 10:4 (NIV)

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Proverbs 15:1 (NIV)

"Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end."

Proverbs 29:11 (NIV)

"Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools."

Ecclesiastes 7:9 (NIV)

V. It is not wise to put fools in positions of leadership rather than those with _____ and _____.

"There is an evil I have seen under the sun, the sort of error that arises from a ruler: Fools are put in many high positions, while the rich occupy the low ones. I have seen slaves on horseback, while princes go on foot like slaves."

Ecclesiastes 10:5-7 (NIV)

"Do you see someone skilled in their work? They will serve before kings; they will not serve before officials of low rank."

Proverbs 22:29 (NIV)

"When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan."

Proverbs 29:2 (NIV)