

VIII. In this world, the truly wise and godly are _____ to find.

“while I was still searching but not finding— I found one upright man among a thousand, but not one upright woman among them all.”

Ecclesiastes 7:28 (NIV)

IX. In this world, sin and temptation are _____ and not _____.

“but not one upright woman among them all.”

Ecclesiastes 7:28c (NIV)

“Folly is an unruly woman; she is simple and knows nothing.”

Proverbs 9:13 (NIV)

X. God has made man to be _____ and not to give in to temptation.

“This only have I found: God created mankind upright, but they have gone in search of many schemes.”

Ecclesiastes 7:29 (NIV)

“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)

“The Lure of Sin”

Ecclesiastes 7:25-29

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I. Solomon searched for meaning, purpose and satisfaction in everything including _____.

“So, I turned my mind to understand, to investigate and to search out wisdom and the scheme of things and to understand the stupidity of wickedness and the madness of folly.”

Ecclesiastes 7:25 (NIV)

❖ There are _____ today who _____ like Solomon here!

(Luke 15:11-32)

II. The knowledge of sin is a very difficult thing that takes great _____.

“For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.”

2 Thessalonians 2:7 (NIV)

III. Willful sinners are _____ and _____.

“For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools...”

Romans 1:21-22 (NIV)

“Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy.

Romans 1:28-31 (NIV)

- IV. Sexual temptations caused Solomon lots of _____.

“find more bitter than death the woman who is a snare, whose heart is a trap and whose hands are chains. The man who pleases God will escape her, but the sinner she will ensnare.”

Ecclesiastes 7:26 (NIV)

“The evil deeds of the wicked ensnare them; the cords of their sins hold them fast. For lack of discipline they will die, led astray by their own great folly.”

Proverbs 5:22-23 (NIV)

“King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh’s daughter—Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites. They were from nations about which the LORD had told the Israelites, “You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods.” Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love. He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray.”

1 Kings 11:1-3 (NIV)

- ❖ There are many today who fall into _____.

- V. Lust gets strength by being gratified and its charms and lures become more _____ and _____.

(Proverbs 7:6-27)

- VI. The remembrance and guilt of sin are very _____.

“find more bitter than death the woman who is a snare,”

Ecclesiastes 7:26a (NIV)

“When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin.”

Psalms 32:3-5 (NIV)

- VII. It is by God’s _____ and Godly _____ that one is kept from the wickedness of sin.

“whose heart is a trap and whose hands are chains. The man who pleases God will escape her, but the sinner she will ensnare.”

Ecclesiastes 7:26b-c (NIV)

“How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word... I have hidden your word in my

heart that I might not sin against you... Keep me from
deceitful ways; be gracious to me and teach me your law.”

Psalms 119:9,11,29 (NIV)