

# “Words of Wisdom”

## Ecclesiastes 7:5-10

June 17, 2026

- I. It is better to listen to the \_\_\_\_\_ than to listen to \_\_\_\_\_.

“It is better to heed the rebuke of a wise person than to listen to the song of fools. Like the crackling of thorns under the pot, so is the laughter of fools. This too is meaningless.”

**Ecclesiastes 7:5-6 (NIV)**

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

**Proverbs 1:7 (NIV)**

“I would have you learn this great fact: that a life of doing right is the wisest life there is.

**Proverbs 4:11 (TLB)**

“Have two goals: wisdom—that is, knowing and doing right—and common sense. Don’t let them slip away,”

**Proverbs 3:21 (TLB)**

“Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams

rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”

**Matthew 7:24-25 (NIV)**

“For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.”

**2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NIV)**

“Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.”

**Proverbs 27:6 (NIV)**

- II. Even a discerning person can succumb to the pressures of adversity or be tempted by the promise of prosperity, so be \_\_\_\_\_!

“Extortion turns a wise person into a fool, and a bribe corrupts the heart.”

**Ecclesiastes 7:7 (NIV)**

“Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds those who see and twists the words of the innocent.”

**Exodus 23:8 (NIV)**

“So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall!”

**1 Corinthians 10:12 (NIV)**

III. What is actually \_\_\_\_\_ in life is what’s important.

“The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride.”

**Ecclesiastes 7:8 (NIV)**

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”

**2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV)**

“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So, we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

**2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NIV)**

“For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”

**1 Peter 3:17 (NIV)**

IV. Be careful to not let anger \_\_\_\_\_ with you.

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

**Ecclesiastes 7:9 (NIV)**

“A wise man controls his temper. He knows that anger causes mistakes.”

**Proverbs 14:29 (TLB)**

“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

**James 1:19-20 (NIV)**

“A wise man restrains his anger and overlooks insults. This is to his credit.”

**Proverbs 19:11 (TLB)**

V. Don’t waste your time dreaming about bringing \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ instead focus on living in what God is doing \_\_\_\_\_.

“Do not say, “Why were the old days better than these?” For it is not wise to ask such questions.”

**Ecclesiastes 7:10 (NIV)**

❖ 2 dangers of dreaming of the past:

1. We can become \_\_\_\_\_ of the present.
2. We can resist what God is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

“The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, “If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost—also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!”

**Numbers 11:4-6 (NIV)**

“That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, “If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness! Why is the LORD bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn’t it be better for us to go back to Egypt?” And they said to each other, “We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”

**Numbers 14:1-4 (NIV)**

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.”

**Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)**