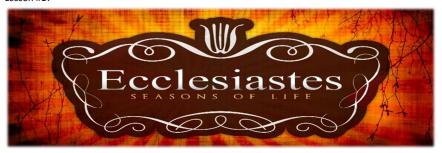
Wednesday Evening Bible Study Ecclesiastes Series 05/27/2020 Stephen H. Converse Lesson #17



"THE BIBLICAL PICTURE OF A FOOL" Ecclesiastes 10:11-20

INTRODUCTION

Now, in today's lesson we learn more about the fool himself, and about three major issues.

A FOOL IS NOT CONTROLLED IN WHAT HE SAYS - 11-15

• He is not controlled in the **NATURE** of his words - 11-13 **Ps. 52:14**

The character of one's talk is the acid test of wisdom. The fool fails that test in at least three ways.

→ He <u>Reacts</u> like a snake – 11 He is <u>critical</u>.

Ps. 58:3-5; 64:24; Prov. 12:18; James 3:8-10; Prov. 18:21

ightarrow He **Responds** without kindness - 12

Here he is unkind.

Ps. 45:1-2; 64; Luke 4:22, Eph. 4:29-32; Col. 4:6; Prov 22:11; Prov 15:23; Prov 25:11

→ He <u>Raves</u> like a madman – 13 This shows him as angry. James 3:5-8; Prov 14:16; Prov 15:2

- He is not controlled in the NUMBER of his words 14-15
- → His words **Reveal** nothing 14 This shows that he is **arrogant**. *Proverbs* 10:19
- → His words **Result** in weariness and a lack of direction 15 This development shows that the fool is **incompetent.**

A FOOL IS NOT <u>CONCERNED</u> ABOUT PRIORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES - 16-19

- It is seen in his **ACTIVITIES** 16-17
- → His activities are characterized by <u>Immaturity</u> 16 He is <u>immature</u>, childish.
- → His activities are characterized by <u>Indulgence</u> 17 He is indulgent, excessive. (*Prov. 31:4-5*).
- It is seen in his <u>APATHY</u> 18 He is generally apathetic. Eccles. 4:5; Prov. 24:30; 26:13-16; Prov 23:21
- It is seen in his <u>ATTITUDES</u> 19 He is materialistic. (*Phil. 3:17-21*)

A FOOL IS NOT <u>CAREFUL</u> ABOUT POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES FOR HIS THOUGHTS, WORDS, OR DEEDS - 20

A fool is careless. - Matt. 12:34-37; Prov 26:2; Prov 5:22-23

Matthew 12:34, we team that "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks," and that men will give an account for every idle word they speak.

We need to understand that God is very concerned with the words we speak. We must all learn to speak with the sweetness of Christ.