

4. WISDOM SURRENDERS _____ —V. 13-15

Ecclesiastes 7:13-15

13 Consider the work of God: for who can make that straight, which he hath made crooked? 14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him. 15 All things have I seen in the days of my vanity: there is a just man that perisheth in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man that prolongeth his life in his wickedness.

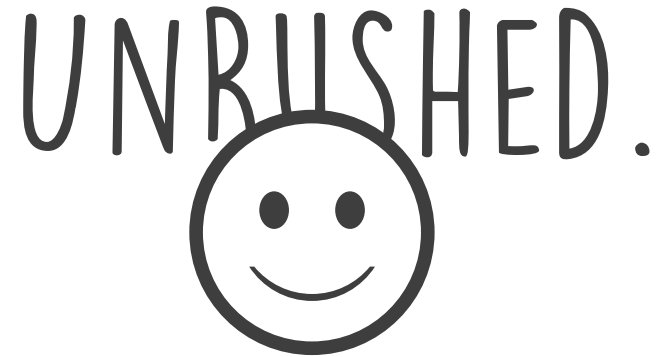
Quote: God balances our lives by giving us enough blessings to keep us happy and enough burdens to keep us humble.

—Warren Wiersbe

CONCLUSION

John 20:31

31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.



OVERCOMING THE OVERWHELMED LIFE

Pastor Cary Schmidt | Sunday, May 24, 2015

STRONG IN WISDOM

Decision #6: How God's Good Sense Changes Everything

Text: Ecclesiastes 7:16-19

16 Be not righteous over much; neither make thyself over wise: why shouldest thou destroy thyself? 17 Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time? 18 It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all. 19 Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city.

INTRODUCTION

Psalm 90:12

12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Wisdom Defined—God’s perspective, God’s view. The combination of true knowledge, insight, and understanding which leads to right decisions. (What you would do if you knew what you needed to know.) (God’s good sense!)

Key Statement—Wisdom clarifies priorities that stabilize my heart and sustain my pace!

Ecclesiastes 7:19

19 Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city.

Proverbs 6:23

23 For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:

I. WISDOM SEES _____—V. 1

Ecclesiastes 7:1

1 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one’s birth.

2. WISDOM THINKS _____—V. 2-7

Ecclesiastes 7:2-7

2 It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart. 3 Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better. 4 The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of

mirth. 5 It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools. 6 For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity. 7 Surely oppression maketh a wise man mad; and a gift destroyeth the heart.

Quote: A fool’s song is more pleasant than a wise man’s rebuke—but also a lot less helpful!

Quote: He is no friend who will comfort you to your peril, rather than warn you into safety...

Concerning hardship, Matthew Henry said: That is best for us which is best for our souls, by which the heart is made better, though it be unpleasing to sense.

3. WISDOM WAITS _____—V. 8-12

Ecclesiastes 7:8-12

8 Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit. 9 Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools. 10 Say not thou, What is the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this. 11 Wisdom is good with an inheritance: and by it there is profit to them that see the sun. 12 For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.
