

Ecclesiastes 10
 Winter 2023

1

Ecclesiastes 10:1-4 (p558)

^{9:18} Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.

¹ Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.

² A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left.

³ Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool.

⁴ If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest.

2

Ecclesiastes 10:5-7

⁵ There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler:

⁶ folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place.

⁷ I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves.

3

Ecclesiastes 10:8-11

⁸ He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall.

⁹ He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them.

¹⁰ If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed.

¹¹ If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer.

4

Ecclesiastes 10:12-15

¹² The words of a wise man's mouth win him favor, but the lips of a fool consume him.

¹³ The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end of his talk is evil madness.

¹⁴ A fool multiplies words, though no man knows what is to be, and who can tell him what will be after him?

¹⁵ The toil of a fool wearies him, for he does not know the way to the city.

5

Ecclesiastes 10:16-18

¹⁶ Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning!

¹⁷ Happy are you, O land, when your king is the son of the nobility, and your princes feast at the proper time, for strength, and not for drunkenness!

¹⁸ Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence the house leaks.

6

Na'ar

- A Servant of Abraham (Gen 18:7)
- 17 year old Joseph (Gen 37:2)
- Baby Moses in basket boat (Ex 2:6)
- A Young priest (Judges 17:12)
- Absalom when he was old enough to seize control in Jerusalem (2 Sam 18:5)
- Jereboam when he rose to a position of prominence (1 Ki 11:28)

Context here: as one who lacks experience and wisdom.

7

Ecclesiastes 10:19-20

¹⁹ Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life, and money answers everything.

²⁰ Even in your thoughts, do not curse the king, nor in your bedroom curse the rich, for a bird of the air will carry your voice, or some winged creature tell the matter.

8
