**THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES**

**LESSON 5 - THE MYSTERY OF DEATH; WISDOM SUPERIOR TO FOLLY**

**(ECCLESIASTES 9-10)**

**DAYS ONE & TWO** - Read Ecclesiastes 9:1-12 (The Mystery of Death)

1. How do verses 1-2 tell us that the righteous and the unrighteous all face the same event in this life by *the hand of God*, as we can’t predict our circumstances.

*Answer here*

2. What is this one fate, that all men face, causing many to do evil in the meantime, according to Ecclesiastes 9:3?

*Answer here*

3. As verse 4 hints that there is some hope, how is a life well-lived, with opportunity for reward, the key to doing something about our pending death, according to verse 5?

*Answer here*

4. What does verse 6 tell us about how the dead no longer have *a share in anything done under the sun*?

*Answer here*

5. What do verses 7-8 say about how we should enjoy this life while we have it?

*Answer here*

6. How does verse 9 speak about marriage?

*Answer here*

7. What does Hebrews 13:4 add to this thought?

*Answer here*

8. How is Colossians 3:17 the key, for us today, to what Solomon said in verse 10?

*Answer here*

9. How does Ecclesiastes 9:11 show that the path to success is not always what we think?

*Answer here*

10. As time and chance are paired, how can life seem out of our control in verse 12?

*Answer here*

**DAY THREE** - Read Ecclesiastes 9:13-18 (Wisdom Superior to Folly)

1. As verses 13-15 are like a parable, how do they show that *wisdom* doesn’t always receive its due, in this life, even though it is superior?

*Answer here*

2. Even though *wisdom is better than strength* in verse 16*,* what happens to the poor wise man?

*Answer here*

3. Even though *the words of the wise*, *spoken quietly, should be heard*, what can happen according to verse 17?

*Answer here*

4. Even though *wisdom is better than weapons of war,* what can happen?

*Answer here*

5. What do we need to remember from Proverbs 16:9?

*Answer here*

**DAYS FOUR & FIVE** - Read Ecclesiastes 10:1-20 (Wisdom Superior to Folly)

1. What do verses 1-3 say about how a person’s reputation can easily be ruined?

*Answer here*

2. a. When a superior is angry with you, as in verse 4, what is your best course of action and why is it best?

*Answer here*

 b. What does Proverbs 15:1 say about this?

*Answer here*

3. In Ecclesiastes 10:5, why is this *evil* a bigger deal, because of who committed it?

*Answer here*

4. What do verses 6-7 add about this theme of fools in leadership, with society in chaos?

*Answer here*

5. What stands out to you, in verses 8-10, about the dangers and uncertainties in life, while *wisdom* still has an advantage?

*Answer here*

6. As *a serpent* is compared to a *babbler*, what stands out to you, in verses 12-14, about the difference between *the words of a wise man’s mouth* and *the lips of a fool*?

*Answer here*

7. As Solomon continues to tell it like it is, what does he say about *the labor of fools* in verse 15?

*Answer here*

8. a. How does the state of the land, depend on who is *king*, in verses 16-17?

*Answer here*

 b. What happens to the state of our structures, in verse 18, because of laziness and idleness of hands?

*Answer here*

9. While feasting by the wise can be acceptable, what does verse 19 say about the wrong conclusion the foolish and the careless have come to believe?

*Answer here*

10. Why should we always watch our words, in verse 20, especially against those in power? Note: this is where we get the saying, “a little bird told me.”

*Answer here*

**DISCUSSION:** As each one of us have only one shot at this life, how do we need to make the most of it today, according to Colossians 3:23-24?

*Answer here*