

**SEEKING EXCELLENCE OF KNOWLEDGE**

**Eccl. 7:10-12**

**REVIEW ON ECCLESIASTES 7 THUS FAR**

1. A good name is better than precious ointment
2. Better to go to the house of mourning than the house of feasting
3. Sorrow is better than laughter
4. Better to hear the rebuke of the wise than the songs of fools
5. Better the end of a thing than its beginning
6. Better to be patient in spirit than to be proud in spirit

**FORMER DAY BETTER THAN THESE DAYS?**

“Do not say,  
“Why were the former days better than these?”  
For you do not inquire wisely concerning this.” Eccl. 7:10

1. Do not say
  - a. Do not say this common saying
  - b. Because it is not totally true
2. “Why were the former days better than these?”
3. People who say this have not inquired whether it is totally true

**WISDOM IS GOOD WITH AN INHERITENCE**

“Wisdom *is* good with an inheritance,  
And profitable to those who see the sun.” Eccl. 7:11

1. An inheritance may be given
  - a. The fool
    - i. The fool may not appreciate his inheritance
    - ii. The fool may take his inheritance and waste it
  - b. The wise man
    - i. He appreciates what has been given to him
    - ii. He is wise in how he uses his inheritance

**SEEKING EXCELLENCE OF KNOWLEDGE**

“For wisdom *is* a defense *as* money *is* a defense,  
But the excellence of knowledge *is that* wisdom gives life to those who have it.” Eccl. 7:12

1. Wisdom is a defense

- a. Wisdom protects us
  - b. It helps us to know how to defend ourselves
2. As money is a defence
    - a. Money buys things to protect us
    - b. Money can be sought as a protection against days of adversity
3. Excellence of knowledge
    - a. When we can apply wisdom carefully
    - b. Beyond basic knowledge, we can have a depth of knowledge
    - c. It gives life

#### **PERSONAL APPLICATION**

1. Learning to inquire wisely about “wise” sayings
2. Learning to be use our inheritance wisely
3. Seeking excellence of wisdom and knowledge