

CONSIDER THE WORKS OF GOD

Eccl. 7:13-14

REVIEW OF ECCLESIASTES 7 SO FAR

1. Learning from the past but not leaving the past
2. Using whatever we have learnt to make the present better
3. Having the prudence to use our money
4. Making wisdom and money a defense in times of difficulties
5. Seeking excellence of knowledge to make wise decisions

SOLOMON'S DEFECTIVE UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORKS OF GOD

“Consider the work of God; for who can make straight what He has made crooked? In the day of prosperity be joyful, But in the day of adversity consider: Surely God has appointed the one as well as the other,...” Eccl. 7:13-14

1. This is Solomon's view of the works of God
 - a. He was taking time to think this through
 - b. He wrote on what he had seen and reflected
2. Nobody can straighten what God had made as crooked
 - a. Crooked
 - i. The person who is wicked and evil
 - ii. The idea is with reference to a person who is perverse, bent and twisted in his ways
 - b. God is the one who made people crooked
 - c. If a person is crooked and perverse, he cannot be straightened
 - d. He cannot become good
 - e. Is this true that a person who is made crooked cannot be straightened?
3. In the day of prosperity
 - a. God is the one who brings about the day of prosperity
 - b. The person is to be joyful in the day of prosperity
4. In the day of adversity
 - a. He is also to see this as from God
 - b. He is to carefully consider what God is doing
5. Surely, God has appointed these days
 - a. The day of prosperity and the day of adversity are from God

- b. God has appointed such days
 - c. He was very sure about it
6. Are these views of the Lord totally correct?

QUESTIONS TO ASK OURSELVES

- 1. In what way are these views defective?
- 2. Why did Solomon have such personal views?
- 3. How can we prevent ourselves from having such views?