

WISDOM STRENGTHENS THE WISE

Eccl. 7:19-22

REVIEW OF 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. Better to be patient in spirit than to be proud in spirit
4. God can still straighten what is crooked
5. Seeing things from a Biblical Perspective
 - a. The day of prosperity
 - b. The day of adversity
6. There are profound things in life that are hard to understand
 - a. The righteous perish in their righteousness
 - b. The wicked live longer in their wickedness
7. Fearing God in life

THE WISE RULER VERSUS THE TEN RULERS OF THE CITY

“Wisdom strengthens the wise more than ten rulers of the city...” Eccl. 7:19

1. Wisdom can strengthen the wise ruler
2. More than ten rulers of the city
 - a. People tend to think that having more people would be a good solution
 - b. Having a wise man is better than having 10 rulers

NOT EASY TO FIND A JUST MAN

“For *there is* not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin.” Eccl. 7:20

1. Of course, a just man cannot be sinless.
 - a. But he will seek not to sin.
 - b. He will walk in righteousness
 - c. He will also do good.
2. He is hard to find
 - a. It is hard to find a just man
 - b. He is just and good.

A WISE RULER WILL BE DISCERNING TOWARDS WHAT PEOPLE SAY

“Also do not take to heart everything people say,
Lest you hear your servant cursing you.

For many times, also, your own heart has known
That even you have cursed others.” Eccl. 7:21-22

1. The wise ruler will not over-react to what people say
 - a. He is wise if he does not take to heart all that people say
 - b. He is discerning towards what they have spoken of him
2. He will take a good look at himself first
 - a. He remembers that he had cursed others before
 - b. As a wise man, he will be gracious in his response.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Learning to be a wise man
2. Learning to be just
3. Learning not to over-react to what people say
 - a. Learn not to take seriously all that people say
 - b. Looking at ourselves first before judging others