

ALL THIS I HAVE PROVED BY WISDOM

Eccl. 7:23-29

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. Accepting paradoxes in life
7. Fearing God in life
8. Wisdom strengthens the wise

DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WISDOM

“All this I have proved by wisdom. I said, “I will be wise”; But it *was* far from me. As for that which is far off and exceedingly deep, Who can find it out?” Eccl. 7:23-24

1. Proved by wisdom
2. Humble admissions
 - a. He spoke of how he desires to be wise
 - i. He was sure that he would be wise
 - ii. However, he humbly admitted that it was far from him
 - b. He further spoke of how his search for that which is deep and most profound
 - i. He also concluded humbly who can really find it!
 - ii. He admitted that it was hard to find such depth of wisdom

COMMITMENT TO LOOK FOR WISDOM

“I applied my heart to know, to search and seek out wisdom and the reason *of things*, to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness *and* madness.” Eccl. 7:25

1. Genuine application of his whole heart into this
2. To know wisdom and the reason of things
3. To know the wickedness of folly, foolishness and madness

SEEING CERTAIN WOMEN IN A VERY NEGATIVE LIGHT

“And I find more bitter than death
The woman whose heart *is* snares and nets,
Whose hands *are* fetters.
He who pleases God shall escape from her,
But the sinner shall be trapped by her.” Eccl. 7:26

1. Finding something more bitter than death
2. The traps of a devious woman
3. The man who pleases God will escape her
4. The sinner will be trapped by her

NOT EASY TO FIND A RIGHTEOUS MAN / WOMAN

“Here is what I have found,” says the Preacher,
“*Adding* one thing to the other to find out the reason,
Which my soul still seeks but I cannot find:
One man among a thousand I have found,
But a woman among all these I have not found.
Truly, this only I have found:
That God made man upright,
But they have sought out many schemes.” Eccl. 7:27-29

1. One righteous man among a thousand he has found
2. One righteous woman among all these he had not found
3. He had found out this
 - a. God made man upright
 - b. Man have sought out many schemes

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Having humility to admit that deep wisdom is hard to find
2. Having the commitment to keep seeking for it
3. Seeking to be righteous always