

PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF WISDOM

Eccl. 10:1-4

DEAD FLIES PUTREFY THE PERFUMER'S OINTMENT

"Dead flies putrefy the perfumer's ointment,
And cause it to give off a foul odor;
So does a little folly to one respected for wisdom and honor." Eccl. 10:1

1. A perfumer's ointment / perfume
 - a. It takes much time and effort to make
 - b. Some perfume can be very costly
2. A dead fly can just spoil the ointment
3. In comparison - A little folly to a man's reputation
4. Don't let a little folly ruin one's reputation

A WISE MAN'S HEART IS AT HIS RIGHT HAND

"A wise man's heart *is* at his right hand,
But a fool's heart at his left." Eccl. 10:2

1. A wise man's heart is at his right hand
2. A fool's heart at the left hand

Question

What is the difference between the heart at the right hand or at the left hand ?

A FOOL WILL SHOW FORTH THAT HE IS A FOOL

"Even when a fool walks along the way,
He lacks wisdom, And he shows everyone *that he is* a fool." Eccl. 10:3

1. A fool will be known easily even in the simplest of things
2. A fool may be walking along the way and lacks wisdom
3. He shows to everyone that he is a fool
4. Even in the simplest of things like moving from one place to another
5. His foolishness can still be seen

CONCILIATION PACIFIES GREAT OFFENSES

"If the spirit of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your post;
For conciliation pacifies great offenses." Eccl. 10:4

1. There are times when a ruler may rise against another
 - a. His spirit may be against an official for one reason or another

- b. He is angry with him because he may have offended him
 - c. Perhaps, there were those who had schemed against the official
 - c. His spirit rises against him
2. The challenge
- a. Not to run away from one's post
 - b. But to stay with the post
 - c. He learns not to overreact
3. Learning to be conciliatory
- a. Taking a conciliatory approach
 - b. Seeking to placate rather than to retaliate
 - c. Wisdom will help us to pacify things
 - d. Humility is what is needed for the official
4. Conciliation will pacify even great offences

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- 1. Don't let a little folly ruin one's good reputation
- 2. Learn to be wise in all things
- 3. Learn to be conciliatory rather than to overreact