

**Eccl 10:11-15**

**"The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious"**

**Review**

1. Be wise and careful in the course of our work...when there are inherent dangers to beware
2. Seek to be more excellent in our work
3. Challenged to trust in the Lord to prosper

**Further proverbial sayings of Solomon**

1. Solomon makes further observations of life
2. Some observations are about the use of the tongue

**A fitting image of a babbler**

"A serpent may bite when it is not charmed; the babbler is no different." Eccl 10:11

1. An uncharmed serpent
  - a) No control
  - b) Does whatever it wants
2. A fitting image for a babbler
  - a) No control over tongue
  - b) Says whatever he wants

**The gracious words of a wise man**

"The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious," Eccl 10:12

1. The words of a wise man stand in contrast
2. Words that are gracious
  - a) Not about the gift of the gap
  - b) The wise man's words are gracious

**The words of a fool**

1. It will swallow him up  
"But the lips of a fool shall swallow him up;" Eccl 10:12

2. Starts from bad to worse

"The words of his mouth begin with foolishness, and the end of his talk is raving madness."  
Eccl 10:13

3. Multiplies his words

"A fool also multiplies words." Eccl 10:14

4. Uncertain

"No man knows what is to be; who can tell him what will be after him?" Eccl 10:14

5. Wearying

"The labor of fools wearies them, for they do not even know how to go to the city!" Eccl  
10:15

### **Some perspectives from Proverbs**

1. Prov 22:11

"He who loves purity of heart and has grace on his lips, the king will be his friend."

2. Prov 31:26

"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness."

### **The example of the Lord Jesus**

1. The Lord Jesus is full of grace and truth                      John 1:14

2. He spoke gracious words    Luke 4:22

"So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, "Is this not Joseph's son?"

### **Lessons learned**

1. Not be foolish in speaking unwise and unkind words, which would result in grave consequences                      James 3

2. Challenged to speak wise and gracious words

3. Follow the example of the Lord Jesus in the way He spoke