

**Ecclesiastes Part 2 / Class 6 / Ecclesiastes 9:17-11:6**  
**Pastor Andrew**

**I. Wisdom is better because foolishness \_\_\_\_\_ (10:1)**

**II. Wisdom is better because fools \_\_\_\_\_ (10:2-3)**

Shaw: He understands things properly and in their proper relation. As a result, his thinking does not lead him astray

**III. Wisdom is better because it \_\_\_\_\_ you from powerful people (10:4-7)**

**IV. Wisdom is better because the fool \_\_\_\_\_ unnecessarily (10:8-11)**

Shaw: Again, examples are legion of people who are hurt by the kind of work they do either from poor planning, or careless execution.

Kaiser says this: Ecclesiastes 10: 11 bemoans the uselessness of help that comes too late, like a charmer (or, as we would say, the snake handler) who comes after the viper has already bitten someone. To use another proverb, why lock the barn door after the cow has gotten out. The proper and wise use of the charmer's tongue could have prevented the disaster and been of "benefit" (yitron) to the afflicted.

**V. Wisdom is better than \_\_\_\_\_ lips (10:12-14)**

Kaiser says this: ...the instrument of this wisdom will be the tongue, or words, of a wise man.

Kaiser: But Solomon confronts the fool with the certainty that no man knows what comes next. There is no one, except God, who can tell him what is coming next. And God isn't talking.

**VI. Wisdom is better than \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (10:15-19)**

Shaw: According to verses 12-15, fools love talk and hate work. The idea here is not that fools have so much work to do that they are worn out from overwork. Rather, a fool is wearied even by the thought of work.

Shaw: Wisdom is doing the right thing the right way at the right time ( and it takes wisdom to judge those things). Folly may involve doing the right thing, but at the wrong time, or in the wrong way. Often it also involves doing the wrong thing.

Kaiser says this: The land's misfortune through such foolishness is further compounded in 10:19 by the people's idleness and indulgence in laughter, feasts, and drinking, and money is their solution to everything: "Money answers every demand and every wish."

## **VII. Wisdom is better: watch over your words (10:20)**

## **VIII. Wisdom is better so be \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (11:1-2)**

Shaw: I don't know that it is either possible or necessary to decide between the two interpretations. Both require the recognition that wise action in the present is necessary

Kaiser: "Be liberal and generous to as many as you can and then some" is the way we would say it. So, make as many friends as you can, for you never know when you yourself may need assistance.

## **IX. Wisdom is better because it recognizes the \_\_\_\_\_ of God (11:3-6)**

Shaw: Verses 3-6 shift the idea somewhat to a more distinctly agricultural situation. Verse 3 probably has to do with recognizing man's inability to control nature. Things happen. Rain falls. Trees fall. Nothing can be done about either one. One simply has to deal with the consequences.

Kaiser: Since we cannot comprehend the totality of God's providential acts, the only proper course of action is to be diligent and wholeheartedly involved; some of this activity will succeed even if all of it does not...Men who insist on certainties or even just the most favorable conditions prior to acting in life never will do anything"

Kaiser: No one can penetrate the wholeness or the specific details of His work. How God works out His purposes in detail may escape us, but our ignorance does not stop the result, nor should it prevent our wholehearted involvement in life to the glory of God.

Shaw: Be diligent in your work. You do not know the future, so you do not know what will produce the best results. Trust God with the results. That is probably the hardest part. We want to control the future, but we cannot. We must trust it to God.