

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

THE WISE PROVERBS

- HELP OTHERS/GOOD ADVICE
- ENJOY WISDOM
- CAUTIOUS WITH REASON
- SEEK KNOWLEDGE
- VALUE WISDOM OVER WEALTH
- RECEIVE LIFE

THE FOOLISH

- LACK JUDGMENT 10:21
- ENJOY FOOLISHNESS 10:23
- GULLIBLE 14:15, 15:12
- FEED ON FOOLISHNESS 15:14
- UNGODLY MATERIALISM 16:16
- RECEIVE PUNISHMENT 17:10

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Proverbs 10:23 A fool finds pleasure in wicked schemes, but a person of understanding delights in wisdom.
- ▶ Proverbs 14:15 The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps.
- ▶ Proverbs 16:16 How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Proverbs: 2:6 declares that God is the source of wisdom, knowledge and understanding. Let's review a couple of very important premises that allow one to make the bold statement that God is the source and not man.
- ▶ First of all, since God is the supreme creator of humankind, it is He who gives the ability to have self-consciousness, reason, mental capacity and wisdom. Since God is the creator, savior, is pure in his character, and holds all history in his control, it is only right that we accept his guidelines as operating templates for which to order and run our personal and business lives.

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ What is wisdom?
- ▶ Making decisions today that will positively impact the future. This decision making must be directed by an inner set of principles, resulting in actions that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy. Therefore, the ability to determine right from wrong must be part of wisdom's characteristics
- ▶ **Wisdom:** "Ability to judge correctly and to follow the best course of action, based on knowledge and understanding"

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ *Websters:*
- ▶ *1a*: accumulated philosophical or scientific learning : KNOWLEDGE
- ▶ *b*: ability to discern inner qualities and relationships : INSIGHT
- ▶ *c*: good sense : JUDGMENT
- ▶ *d*: generally accepted belief challenges what has become accepted *wisdom* among many historians — Robert Darnton
- ▶ *2*: a wise attitude, belief, or course of action
- ▶ *3*: the teachings of the ancient wise men
- ▶ Accepted at face value, Websters definition is relative, i.e. It's up to us.

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Temptation exists, but capitulation is not mandated for a believer.
- ▶ If we void our mind of the big three sin categories.
- ▶ (1. Envy/Materialism 2. Bodily Temptations 3. Pride/Ego/Power/Hate)

- ▶ Then we must fill it with purity and wisdom from God found in scripture – This produces Godly control – Not legalism
- ▶ The constraints found in the Bible are for our own good.

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ We can lose our perspective when “things” don’t go well or we don’t get our way.
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.
- ▶ Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
- ▶ James 1:2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
- ▶ 1 Peter 1:3-4
- ▶ ³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Godly standards
- ▶ [10 Commandments List](#)
- ▶ You shall have no other gods before Me.
- ▶ You shall make no idols.
- ▶ You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
- ▶ Keep the Sabbath day holy.
- ▶ Honor your father and your mother.
- ▶ You shall not murder.
- ▶ You shall not commit adultery.
- ▶ You shall not steal.
- ▶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- ▶ You shall not covet.

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Foundational Statement
- ▶ Proverbs 3: 5-8
- ▶ 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
6 in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.^[a]
- ▶ 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD and shun evil.
8 This will bring health to your body
and nourishment to your bones.
- ▶ How can we trust if we do not know?

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Proverbs 3:21 *"My son, preserve sound judgment and discernment, do not let them out of your sight."*
- ▶ Proverbs 3:27 *"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act."*
- ▶ II Timothy 1:6 – *"For GOD has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline."*
- ▶ Proverbs 27:23-24 *"Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations."*
- ▶

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Proverbs 16:18-19 *"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall." "Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud."*
- ▶ Proverbs 10:21 *"The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of judgment."*
- ▶ Proverbs 19:22 *"What a man desires is unfailing love; better to be poor than a liar."*
- ▶ Proverbs 12:23 *"A prudent man keeps his knowledge to himself, but the hand of fools blurts out folly."*
- ▶ Proverbs 13:3 *"He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin."*

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Proverbs 11:3 "The integrity of the upright guide them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."
- ▶ Proverbs 10:14 "Wise men store up knowledge, but the mouth of a fool invites ruin."
- ▶ Proverbs 13:15 "Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful is hard."
- ▶ Proverbs 14:8 "The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception."
- ▶ Proverbs 10:26 "As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is a sluggard to those who send him."
- ▶ Proverbs 18:9 "One who is slack in his work is brother to one who destroys."

Wisdom and Foolishness Contrasts

- ▶ Philippians 4:8Whatever is:
- ▶ True
- ▶ Noble
- ▶ Right
- ▶ Pure
- ▶ Lovely
- ▶ Admirable
- ▶ Excellent
- ▶ Praiseworthy
- ▶ Think about such things.