

SERMON OUTLINE Ecclesiastes 6:10-7:2

The Preacher's Proverbs

INTRODUCTION

THE PREACHER'S PROVERBS

God Is Sovereign (6:10)

More Words Are Worse (6:11)

We Are Ignorant and Our Days Are Short (6:12)

God Establishes Value Scales (7:1)

Mourning Is Better than Feasting (7:2)

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big ideas of this passage are that God made the world to function in a certain way and, therefore, as we learn that way and conform to it, things tend to go better for us. Likewise, when we are ignorant of God's ways or out of conformity to them, things tend to go worse. And the main takeaway is to order our lives according to God's design and wisdom for his glory and our good.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What is the wisest thing you have ever heard?
3. On a scale of 1-10, how important is wisdom to you? How often do you ask God for it for particular situations in your life?
4. How does the Bible's teaching that God is sovereign sit with you? Is it clear? Do you like/dislike it? Are you confused by it?
5. Have you ever seen someone who was sure they were wiser than God? Have you ever functioned as if you were?
6. How often do you consider your own mortality? When you do, does it lead to despair or a fuller life? Why?
7. Are there any ways you are living as if you might not die?
8. Are you aware of any ways you are valuing something more highly than God's Word does? What should you do about that?
9. How important is it to you to have a good name? What do you find most attractive in someone else?
10. Have you ever found the day of death to be better than the day of birth or the day of feasting?
11. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

12. Consider key passages on God's sovereignty and pray and rest.
13. Make a point of listening carefully (for real understanding) and talk less this week. When you do need to explain something, do your best to say it clearly and concisely in order to bless your hearer.
14. Read one of [R.C. Sproul's children's books](#).
15. Begin a Bible reading plan if you're not already in one. If you are already in one, meditate deeply on a few verses each day.
16. Get rid of something good that is making it harder for you to live for God's glory.
17. Go to the remaining grad parties and visit someone who is suffering.
18. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
19. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

PRAYER POINTS

20. Adoration. Praise God that He is sovereign, wise, and good. Praise God that He is the namer of all things. Praise God that He is eternal. Praise God that He is a God of joy and laughter. Praise God that He is holy, holy, holy.
21. Confess. Confess your pride and ignorance. Confess miscalibrated value scales. Confess your doubt in God's promises. Confess using too many words and listening to little. Confess your failure to live in light of the fact that you will die. Confess any ways your name is not good. Confess your selfishness in not going into houses of feasting or mourning.
22. Thanksgiving. Thank God that you are known and named by Him! Thank God that God always wins. Thank God that He only speaks the right words, at the right time, and in the right ways. Thank God that He has revealed His name. Thank God for giving eternal life to all who hope in Jesus.
23. Supplication. Ask God to open the eyes and ears of someone you love. Ask God to give you His wisdom. Ask God to put His word in your mind and heart. Ask God to allow us to live full lives in light of our deaths. Ask God to comfort the hurting.