

SERMON OUTLINE Ecclesiastes 10:8-11

The Preacher's Proverbs Concerning Folly - Part 2

INTRODUCTION

THE PREACHER'S PROVERBS CONCERNING FOLLY

Folly Leads to Problems by Failing to Anticipate (8-9)

Folly Leads to Problems by Failing to Recognize the Importance of Timing (10-11)

1. *Waiting too long causes problems (10).*

2. *Moving too soon causes problems (11).*

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this passage is that folly leads to all kinds of personal problems in our ordinary lives. The folly of fools creates the problems they face. And the main takeaway is to act in wisdom—wisdom that comes from careful observation of the world, from listening carefully to others, and ultimately from the Word of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. How would you summarize the main point and conclusions of Ecclesiastes?
3. How has God used our time in Ecclesiastes to sanctify you?
4. Have you experienced trouble because you or someone in your life failed to anticipate something highly anticipatable?
5. Do you work with anyone on a regular basis who gets into trouble for failing to anticipate things they should anticipate?
6. Which of the Preacher's four images in vs.8-9 most resonates with you? Why?
7. Do you tend to take too long to make decisions or make them too quickly? Why?
8. What kind of trouble have you gotten into by foolishly getting the timing wrong?
9. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

10. Pray. Ask God to help you to see things as they are. Ask Him to drive out your folly and drive in wisdom.
11. Have good friends, surround yourself with older, wiser people, and be at DG each week so your elder can easily get to know you. And within each of those relationships make it as easy as possible for them to point out your folly. Ask them if they see any before they must point it out to you.
12. Be brave and kind. Be willing to speak the truth in love. If you see something, say something for the help and protection of others. But do it as you would want it done to you.
13. Work hard to get good at your job. Learn the things that should be anticipated. Don't make excuses. Assume responsibility. Whether at home, raising kids or at work, making money, read the right books, pay attention in training, look to those who have been doing the work longer, be eager for feedback and correction.
14. Look to Jesus. He is true wisdom, wisdom incarnate. He is our rescue from and forgiveness of folly and its trouble. Turn to Him in faith, learn and obey His Word, lean on His understanding, trust in His sacrifice, and rely on His Spirit to empower you.
15. 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.
16. 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

17. Adoration. Praise God that He is perfectly wise. Praise God that He is omniscient (that He never fails to anticipate something He should). Praise God that He is never late (that His timing is always perfect). Praise God for crushing the serpent.
18. Confess. Confess any areas of your life that are characterized by folly. Confess the trouble you've brought upon yourself or others by your folly. Confess the times you've shunned the wisdom of others. Confess a lack of love for wisdom.
19. Thanksgiving. Thank God for His grace and mercy in your foolish life. Thank God for rescuing you from the trouble you brought upon yourself. Thank God for a church filled with men and women of significant under and above the sun wisdom.
20. Supplication. Ask God to get rid of our folly and make us wise. Ask God to transform us by the renewing of our minds. Ask God to rescue anyone you know who has fallen into a pit, been bitten by a snake, crushed by stones, and hurt by logs.