

Ecclesiastes 7

King James Version (KJV)

7 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth. (Be a man or woman of your word. At death, a good man is proven. He will be rewarded in paradise)

²It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart. (In a house of mourning, we celebrate the eternal life after death. Life, including mourning, is real; a life of endless partying is not)

³Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better. (Learn from experience; good and bad)

⁴The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. (Fools waste their life with endless partying) (A good life includes people that we love. Everyone dies, so there will be some mourning when someone passes on. We will see them again in paradise)

⁵It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools. (Better to be with the wise, even if they criticize you; than to be with yes men and fools, who know nothing)

⁶For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity. (You cannot cook over burning thorns. All flash, no heat; you need good wood to make a good cooking fire. Surround yourself with good honest people; stay away from drunks and fools)

⁷Surely oppression maketh a wise man mad; and a gift destroyeth the heart. (Gift = bribe; taking bribes will destroy your reputation, your good name and eventually, your soul. That is worse than getting angry at oppression)

⁸Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit. (It's not where you begin that matters; it's where you end up that determines your fate. The humble will be raised up, but the proud will be abased) Matthew-23:12, Luke-14:11

⁹ Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools. (Don't be quick to get angry without thinking it through)

¹⁰ Say not thou, What is the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this. (Be patient, learn and better your life from past experience)

¹¹ Wisdom is good with an inheritance: and by it there is profit to them that see the sun. (A fool and his money will party all night, until the money is gone. While you have money, you'll acquire a lot of fair weather friends. Nothing good happens at night for would be partiers)

¹² For wisdom is a defense, and money is a defense: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it. (Defense=shadow) (Wisdom can steer you through the evils of the world so that you can have a good life with the fruits of your labors. Money without wisdom won't help you much)

¹³ Consider the work of God: for who can make that straight, which he hath made crooked? (1st – You can't. 2nd – HE made everything the way it is for a purpose. Don't try to "fix" God's plan)

¹⁴ In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him. (Enjoy the good times and reflect during the bad times. Did you cause this to happen? Can you improve your situation? Continue to work in God's good graces and He will show you a way to improve your situation)

¹⁵ All things have I seen in the days of my vanity: there is a just man that perisheth in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man that prolongeth his life in his wickedness. (Life is not fair. Good people may die young while the evil live a long rich life)

¹⁶ Be not righteous over much; neither make thyself over wise: why shouldest thou destroy thyself? (Know-it-alls and the self-righteous err, and judge others. They will have to answer for that on judgment day)

¹⁷ Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time? (Mixing with evil people can get you hurt or killed. Stay away from evil, corruption, crime, drugs and perversion)

¹⁸ It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all. (Fear & Revere are the same word in Hebrew. The evil fear God, the good revere God. HE can lead you through any trouble that the world will throw at you)

¹⁹ Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city. (Wisdom can protect you better than physical strength)

²⁰ For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not. (We all sin eventually; we all fall short. Only Jesus <God in the flesh> led a perfect life on earth)

²¹ Also take no heed unto all words that are spoken; lest thou hear thy servant curse thee: (Don't eaves drop, or spread rumors. Ignore those that do)

²² For oftentimes also thine own heart knoweth that thou thyself likewise hast cursed others. (It's never a good thing. At other times, you spoke badly of others, so ignore it when they do the same to you)

²³ All this have I proved by wisdom: I said, I will be wise; but it was far from me. (You can't be wise by yourself, without the word of God. You won't find it without God)

²⁴ That which is far off, and exceeding deep, who can find it out? (God's Word can do that for you. Through the Bible, we learn of the three Ages, what happened in the past, and what will happen in the next Age. We learn the "meaning of life" here on earth)

²⁵ I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness: (Solomon tried to understand all this on his own, by his great wisdom. He couldn't, without knowledge from God, to understand this life)

²⁶ And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinner shall be taken by her. (Babylon <the great harlot>; her "mystery" will deceive you to a spiritual death -as it is written in Revelation. Those that are fooled by her will accept the antichrist as Jesus, and worship him in the great apostasy. Those who believe the rapture doctrine will be primed for the taking)

²⁷ Behold, this have I found, saith the preacher, counting one by one, to find out the account: (Judge not, but be able to discern good from evil)

²⁸ Which yet my soul seeketh, but I find not: one man among a thousand have I found; but a woman among all those have I not found. (The perfect one that walked the earth was Jesus Christ. No one else has ever managed to live a perfect life)

²⁹ Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions. (Their imaginations can lead them to sin)