

# Berwyn Church of Christ: Ecclesiastes Study

Date: July 8, 2026	
Connecting Scriptures/Thoughts	<b><u>Ecclesiastes 10</u></b>
<p>V1-4 is an introduction to the rest of the passage....Solomon prompts us to ask ourselves – which path are we going to follow? Where is our heart going to turn? Wisdom &amp; foolishness travel in opposite directions.</p> <p>V 1 it is not that foolishness is superior to wisdom but that a little foolishness can lead you down a dangerous path.</p> <p>V2 wise ♥protects him, fools ♥leave him vulnerable.</p> <p>V3 Foolishness is often very obvious!</p> <p>V4Don't react in kind? Have patience, still stay at your post, calmness can help overcome.</p> <p>V5-7 In Govt...Folly promotes unqualified individuals to positions of power.</p> <p>V8-11 Destructive characteristics of folly, with life being uncertain, and even with proper planning things can go wrong, but without any plan and preparation things are certain to go awry v10. Folly only looks for help after something goes badly instead of anticipating and preparing v11. Do the extra work in the beginning to save yourself from even more work and pain in the end.</p> <p>V12-14 contrast about wise words and foolish words: speech. Proverbs 18:6;18:21 Starts of foolish ends in madness, notice the progression?</p>	<p>[1] Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.</p> <p>[2] A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left.</p> <p>[3] Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool.</p> <p>[4] If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest.</p> <p>[5] There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler:</p> <p>[6] folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place.</p> <p>[7] I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves.</p> <p>[8] He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall.</p> <p>[9] He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them.</p> <p>[10] If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed.</p> <p>[11] If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer.</p> <p>[12] The words of a wise man's mouth win him favor, but the lips of a fool consume him.</p> <p>[13] The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end of his talk is evil madness.</p> <p>[14] A fool multiplies words, though no man knows what is to be, and who can tell him what will be after him?</p> <p>[15] The toil of a fool wearies him, for he does not know the way to the city.</p> <p>[16] Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning!</p> <p>[17] Happy are you, O land, when your king is the son of the nobility, and your princes feast at the proper time, for strength, and not for drunkenness!</p> <p>[18] Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence the house leaks.</p>

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V13 becomes a way of life or a repeated habit. Proverbs 26:11;10:19;18:2 just keeps on talking...

V14 A fool thinks he has cracked the code understands all about life he knows the future or what will happen. Solomons repeatedly taught us that we do not and cannot predict such things.

V15 Proverbs 14:13 did all that talking and cannot even perform a practical task of knowing which way to travel.

V16-17 contrast a foolish and wise kingdoms/leaders.( The feast would have been a celebration,festival, possibly drinking) nothing would get done afterward.

V18 Foolish neglect work

V19 Is verse 19 the voice of folly or the voice of wisdom?

That is a difficult question. Could it be both? Explain your answer.

V20 Colossians 4:6

Ecclesiastes 11 just because life is unsettling it does not mean we don't participate, we don't prepare, we don't do the work . Fools see risk or imagined risk and don't take action at all: Proverbs 26:13

Unsettling Uncertainty and Appropriate Action.

V1 Casting bread upon water, commerce or trade. 1 Kings 9:26-28

V2 variety of investments brings protection

[19] Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life, and money answers everything.

[20] Even in your thoughts, do not curse the king, nor in your bedroom curse the rich, for a bird of the air will carry your voice, or some winged creature tell the matter. (ESV)

## **Ecclesiastes 11: Cast Your Bread upon the Waters**

[1] Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.

[2] Give a portion to seven, or even to eight, for you know not what disaster may happen on earth.

[3] If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves on the earth, and if a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie.

[4] He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.

[5] As you do not know the way the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything.

[6] In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

[7] Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.

[8] So if a person lives many years, let him rejoice in them all; but let him remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes is vanity.

[9] Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Walk in the ways of your heart and the sight of your eyes. But know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment.

[10] Remove vexation from your heart, and put away pain from your body, for youth and the dawn of life are vanity. (ESV)

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V3-6 Do the work assigned to the day, it is more likely to turn out well with hard work than with no effort at all. V3 Even if obstacles such as rain falling or a tree falling get in your way.

V4 Don't be frozen and take no risks at all

V5 you are not going to be able to figure everything out

V 6- so do the work

V7 [How morning light can help your sleep and mood](#)

Morning light in the first 30-60 minutes that you wake can help you in numerous areas of your life. "When bright light enters your eyes in the morning, it sends a message to your brain to lower melatonin(sleep hormone) and raise cortisol(the alertness hormone) this helps with:

- Waking up more easily
- Improve focus and energy
- Make it easier to fall asleep at night
- Improve symptoms of anxiety and depression

V8 moments and life in general is for us to enjoy. (Jesus ate meals w/friends, went to weddings, purposeful alone time with God) James 1:17 Every good thing... Eph 2:10 obedience, kindness, acts of service, forgiveness, love....

2:24;3:12;22;5:18

V9 enjoy your youth, seek pleasure that is not against God. His path is to bring you more joy, safety and happiness, not squash your fun. Psalm 16:11

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V10 **Vexation-** anxiety, sorrow, worry, frustration, stress, grief and anger. Don't let the "days of darkness" pull you down, push through them and enjoy the times that are good.  
Philippians 3:13 forget what lies behind.... Don;t waste today because you are focused on yesterday. God has given you this life to enjoy.