

Berwyn Church of Christ: Ecclesiastes Study

Date: June 24, 2026	
Connecting Scriptures/Thoughts	Ecclesiastes 8: Keep the Kings Command
<p>Chapter 7 showed us that going after wisdom is NOT an easy task. 7: [23] All this I have tested by wisdom. I said, "I will be wise," but it was far from me. [24] That which has been is far off, and deep, very deep; who can find it out?</p> <p>V1-2 Num 6:25;Romans 13:1;1 Peter 2:13-17</p> <p>V3-9 Governing authorities can be frustrating 😞 you don't say.</p> <p>1 Samuel 8:6; God warned about this</p> <p>Proverbs 13:35 Our Responsibility</p> <p>V3-4 quit service to king; or insurrection 1 King 1:50-52 Don't think the govt is always going to do what you want it to do(for USA neither side)</p> <p>Proverbs 16:14 Acts 4:19 exception</p> <p>Job 9:12 Would you say to God, what are you doing?</p> <p>V5/6 Wise man knows that everyone is held accountable. Not easy to endure a tyrant Psalm 2:10-11</p> <p>V7 no one really knows the future and what is in store for rulers or those being ruled</p>	<p>[1] Who is like the wise? And who knows the interpretation of a thing? A man's wisdom makes his face shine, and the hardness of his face is changed.</p> <p>[2] I say: Keep the king's command, because of God's oath to him.</p> <p>[3] Be not hasty to go from his presence. Do not take your stand in an evil cause, for he does whatever he pleases.</p> <p>[4] For the word of the king is supreme, and who may say to him, "What are you doing?"</p> <p>[5] Whoever keeps a command will know no evil thing, and the wise heart will know the proper time and the just way.</p> <p>[6] For there is a time and a way for everything, although man's trouble lies heavy on him.</p> <p>[7] For he does not know what is to be, for who can tell him how it will be?</p> <p>[8] No man has power to retain the spirit, or power over the day of death. There is no discharge from war, nor will wickedness deliver those who are given to it.</p> <p>[9] All this I observed while applying my heart to all that is done under the sun, when man had power over man to his hurt.</p> <p>Those Who Fear God Will Do Well</p> <p>[10] Then I saw the wicked buried. They used to go in and out of the holy place and were praised in the city where they had done such things. This also is vanity.</p> <p>[11] Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil.</p> <p>[12] Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they fear before him.</p> <p>[13] But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong his days like a shadow, because he does not fear before God.</p> <p>Man Cannot Know God's Ways</p>

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V8-9 Even powerful kings have limits to their power
Galatians 6:7-9 accountability

V9 some rulers will be a detriment to man... to his hurt

V10 sometimes wicked even praised (frustrating) for evil deeds

V11 Why do they behave in an evil way?

V12-13 Just because it seems evil gets away with it, does not mean we join in. Far better to Fear God!

V14 Sometimes righteous will not get the good we think they deserve nor the wicked the consequence they deserve.
(Think Jesus)

V15-17
Therefore as the preacher stated, take heart in the joys that you do have when you have them. 2:24;3:12;22;5:18

God is comforting us by letting us know, some things we just will not clearly understand Duet 29:29

Trust God Heb 13:6

Matthew 5:3

1 Peter 2:13-21

[14] There is a vanity that takes place on earth, that there are righteous people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the wicked, and there are wicked people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.

[15] And I commend joy, for man has nothing better under the sun but to eat and drink and be joyful, for this will go with him in his toil through the days of his life that God has given him under the sun.

[16] When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done on earth, how neither day nor night do one's eyes see sleep,

[17] then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.