

**“Habits of Wisdom”**

**20th in “The Good Life” Series**

**Ecclesiastes 9:11-18 pg. 558**

June 11, 2017

Pastor Mickey Klink

7) How would you define “wisdom?” How does this passage (or even

 Ecclesiastes as a whole) define “wisdom?”

8) How does this passage instruct us to live a life directed by wisdom?

9) Reflecting on vv. 16-18, how can we begin to develop “habits of wisdom”

 and put them into practice in our regular, daily lives?

10) How should habits of wisdom flow out of your living faith in God and be a

 response to the gospel of Jesus Christ?

**Further study this week**: Ps 16 on seeking/trusting in God (Mon); Proverbs 4 on getting wisdom (Tues); Proverbs 19 on the benefits of wisdom (Wed); Proverbs 8 on the blessing of wisdom (Thurs); Matthew 7:24-27 on building on wisdom (Fri).

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

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**Introduction**

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In this passage God teaches us to trust in wisdom over weapons and to develop habits of wisdom.

**The Text: Ecclesiastes 9:11-18**

1. God mercifully teaches us to expect the unexpected and not to trust in our own power (vv. 11-12).
2. There are examples of the victory of wisdom over weapons, but none better than Jesus (vv. 13-15).
3. Live your life not by might nor by power but by practicing habits of wisdom (vv. 16-18).

*(a) Give your life to Christ as Savior and Lord.*

*(b) Develop habits of wisdom that embody your life in Christ: thankful, content, prayerful, humble, generous, faithful, and hopeful.*

**Response**

* When the unexpected happens … let Christ be your wisdom.
1. Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
2. V. 11 gives five examples of abilities we often trust in over wisdom. What abilities are we tempted to trust in as seek success in life?
3. According to vv. 11-12, why do such abilities ultimately fail us? How have you seen this happen?
4. Why might God use this passage to teach us to expect the unexpected in our life?
5. What is the purpose of the analogy offered in vv. 13-15? Why was the poor man not remembered, and what is the significance of that?
6. Can you think of a biblical character to which this analogy might be alluding? How does this analogy parallel Jesus’ life and ministry (a man lacking military strength and political stature and yet conquering the world in weakness – from the cross!)?

**Would you like to be involved in a Small group? Contact Pastor Brad at pastorbrad@hefc.net**

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