



## Ecclesiastes

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### Lesson 19 Study Notes – Ecclesiastes 10: 1-15

#### Pray

**Review** – In the last lesson, the preacher talked about the value of wisdom and the stark reality that the wise who come from a lower position or status in life are often not heard, over the shout of a ruler or well-known person who has a following of fools. We see this in the public arena today, when politicians, Hollywood figures and religious leaders who have a name and a huge following; therefore influencing our country and the church at large, with wisdom that is not biblical wisdom.

In today's verse, Solomon continues to talk about the characteristics of wisdom, by contrasting it with the characteristics of foolishness.

#### Reflect

1. Read the verses for today: **Etc. 10: 1-15.**
2. In **verse 1**, what is the basic principle we should heed?
3. According to **verses 2-3**, why is one person foolish and another wise? It all depends on the inclinations of what? (v2)
4. What does it mean the "heart of the wise is at his right hand" and the "fool's heart at his left"? Look up **Pro. 4: 23, Ps. 110: 1, Ps. 20: 6** and **Is. 41: 10** before you answer.
5. So, the wise person will stay away from folly, because his heart is in the right place. Having laid down the principle, in **verses 4-15**, he applies it to 3 different groups of "fools". Who are they? (Next lesson there will be a 4<sup>th</sup> group!)
6. Read **Proverbs 4: 23-27**. List the instructions Solomon gives in these verses, that we must follow to "keep our hearts".

#### Respond

1. Have you ever found yourself to be a fool? How did you change your heart?

2. When have you had to deal with a foolish leader or foolish speech of another? How did you respond? What are the greatest challenges of working for someone with whom you disagree? How do you know when it's time to speak out about a leader's foolishness and when it's time to be quiet?