



Ecclesiastes 7

The seventh chapter opens with yet another series of contrasts. Written similar to chapter three, Solomon seems to answer the question asked in 6:12. The word "better" is used 6x in these opening verses.

Better is:

1. Good name
- 2.
3. To go to
4. S
5. Listening
6. E
7. P

Than:

1. Good ointment
2. Birth
3. House of
4. L
5. Song
6. B
7. H

Who determines which is better?

Why are the "better" better?

A. Perspective regarding wisdom (7:9-14)

1. Do not: be eager to be _____ (Jas 1:19-20); say that the _____ was better than now (7:11)
2. Wisdom is protection (7:12)
3. Consider the work of God (13) - Phil 4:12

B. Perspective regarding extremes (7:15-18)

- I have seen (15); I have tested (23); I directed (25); I discovered (26, 27)

1. Do not be excessively _____, _____ or _____: none of these provide advantages in life

Our destiny in the world cannot be absolutely determined by whether we are righteous or wicked...if our righteousness and wisdom are unable to guarantee a peaceful and prosperous course in this life, it is certain that wickedness and folly will not succeed.

C. Perspective regarding relationships (7:19-29)

1. Wisdom cannot solve all of life's problems (23)
2. Do not take seriously all the words that are spoken (21)

The "Do Nots" of Ecclesiastes 7

9, 10, 16, 17, 21