

Solomon's Late Blossomed Wisdom (Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:14)

Introduction

Some people may be wise, but they end up doing all kinds of foolish things. Solomon was such a person, which we meditated last month, under the title, "Solomon, when the wisest man becomes a fool." He went after the pleasures and riches of this world, which ruined the major part of his life.

But toward the end of his life, his wisdom blossomed and reality of life set on him. Today we want study that, and the sermon is titled, "Solomon's late blossomed Wisdom."

Solomon's canonical writings, especially the books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes explain that his wisdom blossomed toward the end of his life. He is now an aged Preacher and he has some pertinent godly advice to young men.

Remember Now the Creator (11:9-12:1a)

Solomon's advice to the young man is that he should put away from himself all that would be displeasing to God.

- The gifts and talents the Lord has given him should not be misused for his own worldly pleasures and comfort.
- These gifts should not be squandered foolishly.
- Do not walk in the impulse of one's own heart. (*These were the mistakes Solomon did!*)
- There will be a day of accounting.
- Therefore handle the blessings God given as the gifts of God.
- Put away evil from the flesh.
- Remember the Creator. Remember the Creator in the youthfulness of age.
- Use the youthful resources with godliness.

Remember the End of Life shall Surely Come (12:1b-8)

Verses 1-6 contain the moving allegory of old age.

- In the old age, man's ability to enjoy life will be drastically limited. All that are around life look dark and dim (vv 1-2)
- In the old age, the strength of the organs of the body would diminish (vv 3-5).
- In the end man's life will be like a broken frame (v 6).
- His body will soon dissolve into dust, and his spirit or the breath of his life will return unto God who originally gave it (Job 34:14-15).

The young man should therefore stop and ponder the direction in which he is going.

Remember the Conclusion of the Whole Matter (12:9-12)

Much study and hard labor only bring weariness to the body or flesh. Man has a greater responsibility in life, ie, “Fear God, and Keep the commandments of God.”

- The controlling factor of all of life should be the fear of God.
- The fear of God means a true submission to God and His revelation.
- The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge or wisdom (Prov 1:7).
- This is the whole duty of man. We are created with this solemn spiritual responsibility.

Conclusion

The psalmist says in Psalm 119:1-2, “Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who **walk** in the law of the LORD. Blessed are they that **keep** his testimonies, and that **seek** him with the whole heart.”