

## **Wisdom and Folly Pt. 1**

### **Intro:**

### **1 – Wisdom is better than strength: (9:13-10:1)**

- A. The city was delivered by the wisdom of the poor man (vs. 15; cf. 7:19)
  - 1. "Brains are better than brawn."
- B. Wisdom is unappreciated (1 Cor. 1:18f; Pr. 10:7)
  - 1. Still the wisdom of the gospel remains our greatest asset to push back the darkness (Rom. 1:16; 2 Cor. 10:3-5; Eph. 6:14)
- C. Wisdom can be ruined by a little foolishness (9:18b-10:1)
  - 1. See example of Achan ( Joshua 7; cf. 1 Cor. 5:6)

### **2 – Wisdom will protect you: (10:2-3)**

- A. Michael Eaton "The right hand was associated with a strength which saves, supports and protects" (Ps. 16:8; Is. 41:13).
- B. The fool relies on his own judgment and his folly is obvious to all who have eyes to see (Ecc. 4:5, 7:6, 5:3; cf. Prov. 13:23)
- C. The fool's spiritually dead heart comes out in the open (Lk. 6:45; Mk. 7:21-23)

### **3 – Wisdom brings composure: (10:4-7)**

- A. Fools rise to high places of authority (10:4, 6-7;).
- B. When fools are in power folly is exalted (Prov. 28:12; Isa. 5:20)
- C. Wisdom calls for:
  - 1. Composure ~ Hebrew term means "calmness" or "meekness." (Mt. 5:5)
  - 2. Keeping your post. Our mission requires both (Eph. 5:15; Col. 4:5-6)

### **CONCLUDING THOUGHTS:**

## **YOUTH QUESTIONS**

1. WHY SHOULD WE BE CAREFUL TO PROPERLY UNDERSTAND PROVERBS?
2. WHAT IS SOLOMON TEACHING IN THIS SECTION? (9:13-10:20)
3. WHERE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT ARE WE TOLD TO LIVE WISELY?
4. DESCRIBE WISDOM AND FOLLY:
5. WHAT CAN RUIN WHAT WISDOM GAINS? WHAT IS AN OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLE?
6. WHAT DOES THE RIGHT HAND SIGNIFY?
7. HOW DOES THE FOOL LIVE? WHAT DOES HE THINK OR FAIL TO THINK?
8. WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE OFTEN IN POWER?
9. HOW SHOULD CHRISTIANS RESPOND TO AGGRESSIVE OPPOSITION?
10. HOW IS THIS KIND OF RESPONSE NEEDED FOR OUR MISSION?