

Wisdom of the King

The Trap of Wisdom

Recap

Three Questions that Ecclesiastes Answers

**What do you expect out of
life?**

**What if your expectations are
wrong?**

**Where did your expectations
come from?**

Recap

**“Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the
Teacher. “Utterly meaningless
Everything is meaningless.”
Ecclesiastes 1:2**

Work

Pleasure

Wealth

Recap

**Temporary temporary, everything
under the sun is temporary**

Recap

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

1 John 2:15-17

I applied my mind to study and to explore by **wisdom all that is done under the heavens. What a heavy burden God has laid on mankind! **1:13****

**I said to myself, “Look, I have
increased in wisdom more than
anyone who has ruled over Jerusalem
before me; I have experienced much
of wisdom and knowledge.” Then I
applied myself to the understanding
of wisdom, and also of madness and
folly... vs 16-17**

How to Think Like a Wise Person, PT

Wisdom is the ability to make sound judgments and choices based on experience. It's a virtue according to every great philosophical and religious tradition, from Aristotle to Confucius and Christianity to Judaism, Islam to Buddhism, and Taoism to Hinduism.

Wisdom emerges not from experience itself, but rather from reflecting thoughtfully on the lessons gained from experience. Not age based

How to Think Like a Wise Person, PT

See the world in shades of grey, not black and white

The ability to look beyond our personal desires

Aim to understand, rather than judge

Focus on purpose over pleasure

**“Who is wise?
He that learns from everyone.
Who is powerful?
He that governs his passions.
Who is rich?
He that is content.
Who is that?
Nobody.”**

Benjamin Franklin

The Corruption of Wisdom

**For with much wisdom comes
much sorrow; the more
knowledge, the more grief. 1:18**

**Our minds are the problem, our
intellect left to its own seeks after
that which wars against God**

The Corruption of Wisdom

The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

Genesis 3:2-3

“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, **knowing good and evil.” vs 4-5**

The Corruption of Wisdom

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are **darkened in their understanding** and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being **corrupted by its deceitful desires**; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:17-18

The Futility of ‘Under the Sun’ Thinking

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. **Although they claimed to be wise**, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. **Romans 1:21-23, 28**

The Futility of ‘Under the Sun’ Thinking

How can God forgive me?

I don't understand grace?

Explain to me the trinity

Why does God allow bad things to happen?

How can God be eternal?

Summary of the Problem

I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens. 1:13

Solomon used his 'wisdom' to interpret the world and then ultimately judge God by it

Of course everything is meaningless

Summary of the Problem

**Solomon should have used God's law
instead**

Wisdom + Experience = Narcissism

God's Law + Experience = Wisdom

**The greatest danger facing
Christians today is interpreting God
through the grid of their personal
experience**

The Redemption of Wisdom

We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

1 Corinthians 2:6-7

The Redemption of Wisdom

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. vs 10-15