

Book:	Ecclesiastes
Series:	Two Ways to Live: Under the Sun or In the Fear of God
Lesson 10:	Wisdom for Living
Text:	Ecclesiastes 7:1-14
Date:	Sunday, March 24, 2013
Next Lesson:	Ecclesiastes 7:15-29

Against the foolish and trivial—yes, fundamentally deceived—escapism of our society, Solomon turns to the topic of wisdom in the second half of his book. He suggests that life is solved, not by escaping from it, but by embracing it; not by indulging fantasy, but by accepting reality. In a word, what makes life “better” (8x in vv. 1-14) is “wisdom” (11x in chapter 7). Wisdom basically means “skill” (cf. Exodus 35:33) and when used to refer to life speaks of “skillful living” or “applied knowledge.” It is attaining understanding (i.e., truth or reality) and then successfully applying it to life in decisions, actions, pursuits, etc. **We must not escape from life, but embrace it with God-given, God-oriented wisdom.**

WISDOM IS BEING _____ ABOUT LIFE (vv. 1-4).

1. *Wisdom accepts the _____ of death.*

2. *Wisdom accepts the _____ of death.*
 - a. *Wisdom ponders a sober _____.*

 - b. *Wisdom pursues a good _____.*

 - c. *Wisdom plans an appropriate _____.*

Application:

WISDOM IS BEING _____ ABOUT COMPANIONS (vv. 5-6).

1. *Wisdom chooses the caring _____ of wisdom.*

2. *Wisdom refuses the _____ frivolity of foolishness.*

Application:

WISDOM IS BEING _____ AGAINST OBSTACLES (vv. 7-10).

1. *Wisdom rejects _____ (v. 7).*

2. *Wisdom rejects _____ (v. 8).*

3. *Wisdom rejects _____ (v. 9).*

4. *Wisdom rejects _____ (v. 10).*

Application:

WISDOM IS BEING _____ AGAINST HARM (vv. 11-12).

Application:

WISDOM IS BEING _____ TO GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY (vv. 13-14).

Application: