

- ii. His Laughter (Ecclesiastes 7:6)
  - 1. Is like thorns under a pot
  - 2. The sons of Belial (men of the world) shall be like thorns (2 Samuel 23:6; Hebrews 6:8) – Lost
    - a. Their laughter is for a season
    - b. They will be thrust away forever

### VI. THE FRUSTRATION AND DESTRUCTION OF THE WISE (Ecclesiastes 7:7)

- a. Righteous Anger (Ephesians 4:26)
  - i. Moses with Aaron at the foot of the mount (Exodus 32:21-29)
  - ii. Phinehas and his putting away of sin (Numbers 25:7-11; Psalm 106:30)
  - iii. Nehemiah as governor (Nehemiah 5:6-13)
    - 1. The Jews had brought into bondage their own people because of debts that were owed.
    - 2. This rightfully angered Nehemiah as governor.
- b. Unrighteous Anger
  - i. Moses at the water of Meribah (Numbers 20:10-13)
  - ii. Admonishment to sin not (Psalm 4:4)
- c. A Payment for Destruction (Ecclesiastes 7:7)
  - i. A gift given to the wise blinds judgment (Exodus 23:8)
  - ii. The judges of the land were to not take gifts of the people (Deuteronomy 16:18-19)

### VII. THE PATIENT SPIRIT PRAISED (Ecclesiastes 7:8)

- a. The Patient Spirit
  - i. Is praised for his patience
  - ii. Pays off in the end
    - 1. Joseph with his brothers (Genesis 50:20)
    - 2. The Christian's life (Romans 8:28)
- b. The Proud Spirit
  - i. Is Rebuked for his pride
    - 1. Wisdom hates pride (Proverbs 8:13) – The fear of the Lord is to hate pride
    - 2. Pride brings shame (Proverbs 11:2)
    - 3. Pride brings contention (Proverbs 13:10)
    - 4. Pride rests in the mouth of fools (Proverbs 14:3)

- ii. Pays for his proudness in the end
  - 1. Prideful men
    - a. Shall be brought low (Proverbs 29:23)
    - b. Shall be destroyed (Proverbs 16:18)
  - 2. Unless diverted
    - a. Hezekiah was lifted up with pride (2 Chronicles 32:25)
    - b. Hezekiah humbled himself (2 Chronicles 32:26)
    - c. Josiah and his humble spirit before God (2 Chronicles 34:27-28)
      - i. Josiah was humble before God when he heard the word of the Lord.
      - ii. Josiah stayed the hand of God on the nation because of his humble heart before the Lord.

### VIII. THE HASTY TEMPER ADMONISHED (Ecclesiastes 7:9)

- a. Admonished to be Slow to Anger
  - i. Have understanding in your anger (Proverbs 14:29)
  - ii. Be slow in your approach (Proverbs 16:32; James 1:19)
    - 1. Do not sin
    - 2. Do not be quick to get angry
    - 3. Do not get angry without a cause
- b. Anger Rests in the Fool
  - i. Hastiness of anger is a mark of foolishness (Proverbs 14:17)
  - ii. The wrath of man does not work righteousness (James 1:19-20)

### IX. THE FORMER DAYS (Ecclesiastes 7:10)

- a. Better Than These?
  - i. For the Children of Israel?
    - 1. The Children of Israel, while in the wilderness bemoaned how good they had had it in Egypt. (Numbers 11:4-6)
    - 2. Yet, they had been under the rule of the Egyptians as slaves. (Exodus 3:7-10)
  - ii. For the Christian? (2 Corinthians 5:17)
    - 1. We are a new creature
    - 2. We have a different goal

- b. The Wisdom in Looking Back
  - i. One cannot go back
    - 1. Job lost what was in the past
    - 2. Job bemoaned his former prosperity (Job 29)
    - 3. Job's future would actually be better (Job 42:10-17)
  - ii. One cannot dwell on the past
    - 1. Past accomplishments
    - 2. Past victories
    - 3. Paul was set on looking ahead to the Saviour and the race that was set before him (Philippians 3:7-14)