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

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: mind, sadness, wisdom, worrying

Interpretation:
Ecclesiastes 1:18 speaks of the negative consequences that can arise when we acquire too much knowledge. In the context of this book of the Bible, the author (presumably *King Solomon*) reflects on the futility of life and what often wastes our time and energy. Solomon, one of the wisest men of his time, conducted extensive research and acquired a considerable amount of knowledge, but he realized that this did not alleviate his suffering and difficulties.

Why can wisdom cause suffering?

So why can wisdom lead to suffering? One possible explanation is that as a person grows wiser, they may realize how much they don't know. This can lead to a feeling of helplessness or frustration, as the desire to learn more collides with the limitations a person places on their knowledge.

On the other hand, wisdom can also illuminate inconvenient truths or negative aspects of life. Once these truths are realized, a person may experience greater anxiety or sadness as they see previously hidden difficulties in the world.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Words from the mouth of the wise are gracious, but fools are consumed by their own lips.
> — *Ecclesiastes 10:12*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes

Topics: speaking, wisdom

Interpretation:
This Bible verse teaches us the importance of being careful with our words and how our words can have a negative impact on our lives if we do not use them wisely. In this passage, the author tells us that the words of a wise person are full of grace. Wisdom is very important in our lives because it allows us to make smart decisions and use words wisely, which can lead to a calmer and more peaceful life.

On the other hand, the author also tells us about the mouth of a fool and how they can cause their own destruction. Folly is the opposite of wisdom, and when we speak without thinking about the consequences, we can end up in problems that could have been avoided.

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> So then, banish anxiety from your heart and cast off the troubles of your body, for youth and vigor are meaningless.
> — *Ecclesiastes 11:10*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: body, health, heart, sadness, worrying

Interpretation:
In the book of Ecclesiastes, the author shares his wisdom and reflections on life and the nature of the world. In *Ecclesiastes 11:10*, we are counseled to remove anger from our hearts and evil from our flesh. The author warns us that youth and youth are vanity and that we must live with a clear mind and heart, free from anger and wrath.

Meaning of the verse

Anger and wrath can be powerful emotions that can harm our mental and physical health. Anger often clouds our judgment and prompts us to act impulsively, which can have serious consequences. By removing these emotions from our daily lives, we can live with greater clarity of mind and be more loving and compassionate towards others.

The phrase *"youth and vigor are meaningless"* can be interpreted in various ways. It can mean that young and inexperienced people tend to be selfish and live without much regard for others. On the other hand, it could also imply that youth is a fleeting and transitory time. In any case, the author calls us to live our lives wisely and responsibly.

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> As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother’s womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.
>
> — *Ecclesiastes 11:5*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: God, understanding

Interpretation:
The Bible is a book full of wisdom, revealing God's teachings and how to apply them in our lives to find direction and purpose. *Ecclesiastes 11:5* speaks of the incomprehensibility of God's ways and how His actions are evident in everything around us.

Analogy of the wind and the bones in a woman's belly

The author of Ecclesiastes uses an analogy to highlight God's supernatural activity, which we often cannot understand or explain. He compares our ignorance of God's activity to our inability to comprehend the path of the wind or the growth of bones in a pregnant woman's womb. This comparison shows us that God's power and activity are incomprehensible to us, and that we cannot comprehend everything He does.

The sovereignty and goodness of God

God's incomprehensibility should not be seen as an obstacle to our relationship with Him, but as an opportunity for unwavering faith. We must fully trust in God's sovereignty and goodness and be confident that everything He does is for our good and His glory. Though His actions may be mysterious, we can be confident that He is at work in our lives.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, “I find no pleasure in them”.
> — *Ecclesiastes 12:1*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: creation, evil, joy, life

Interpretation:
In *Ecclesiastes 12:1*, the author of Ecclesiastes calls for reflection on life and the importance of youth. It is during these years that we make the most important decisions and can lay a solid foundation for the future. This is why the author urges us to remember *the Creator* while we are young, before difficult days arrive.

The value of time and wisdom

The author of Ecclesiastes also reminds us of the importance of time and wisdom. Youth is a time when we have many opportunities and can accomplish much, but it is also a time when we can waste time and make poor decisions. This is why the author urges us to be wise and remember the Creator in our youth so that we can build a good future.

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> Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.
> — *Ecclesiastes 12:13*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: awe, law, life

Interpretation:
The Book of Ecclesiastes is a philosophical and religious text that seeks to convey the wisdom of a man who has lived and experienced various aspects of life. In the book's final verse, the author offers us a lesson that summarizes the message of the text—*Ecclesiastes 12:13*.

What does it mean to "fear God"?

The term "fear of God" can be confusing to some people, as fear is a negative emotion. However, in the Bible, the fear of God implies the reverence and respect we should have for Him. It is the recognition of His sovereignty over our lives and the awareness that everything we do must be in accordance with His will.

What are God's commandments?

God's commandments are the instructions and teachings He has given us to guide us on the path to holiness. They are found throughout the Bible, from the Old Testament to the teachings *of Christ* in the New Testament. These commandments teach us to love God above all else and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

The fear of God and keeping His commandments are the essence of our existence

In the book of Ecclesiastes, the author asserts that everything in life is futile and transitory, and that only God is eternal and can truly satisfy our needs. The fear of God and keeping His commandments are the path that allows us to connect with the eternal and true and live a full and meaningful life.

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> There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.
>
> — *Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: heaven, life, planning

Interpretation:

This verse invites us to reflect on the divine purpose of life and the universe. Sometimes it may seem like things are not happening the way we want them to, or that the results we expect are not coming when we want them to, but God has a reason for everything. The text suggests that in life there is a time for work, a time for rest, a time for love, a time for sorrow, a time for happiness, and more.

The text reminds us of the importance of patience and faith that even if we do not fully understand the purpose of the rhythm of life, everything is in God's hands. Each of us has a specific time to grow, learn, mature, have fun, and overcome obstacles.

We must learn to trust that everything in the world has its place and time, even if we cannot understand it. Moreover, we are invited to live each moment to the fullest, making the most of what life offers us at each stage.

Moreover, the term *"under the heavens"* refers to everything earthly, everything physical, everything within our reach.

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> He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.
>
> *— Ecclesiastes 3:11*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: creation, dependence, life, understanding

Interpretation:
The Book of Ecclesiastes is one of the most profound and complex works of the Old Testament. Written by the wise *Solomon*, this book focuses on the transience and ephemerality of human life. In chapter 3, Solomon reflects on the time and season of life for everything. From birth to death, the sage asserts that everything has a divine plan. And amid all this, verse 11 contains a beautiful truth.

He created every beautiful thing in its time

Reading verse 11 of chapter 3 of Ecclesiastes, we clearly see that Solomon was reflecting on God's power to create beautiful things. But what does this mean? First of all, it's important to remember that

everything God creates is beautiful and perfect. In creating the world, God created everything perfect and beautiful, endowing each thing with a specific purpose and function.

Similarly, in our lives, we see how God bestows beauty upon us. From the beauty of nature to the complexity of human relationships, God creates beauty in our lives. But it's important to remember that all of this has its time and purpose in our lives.

Eternity in our hearts

Verse 11 also speaks of God putting "eternity in the heart of man." This refers to the idea that as humans, we are aware of our mortality. We know that our life on earth is coming to an end. And yet, despite this, we yearn for something that transcends our mortal existence. The idea of ??eternity in our hearts is one of the most profound themes of Ecclesiastes. The wise Solomon acknowledges that while we cannot fully comprehend God's deeds, we are aware of His existence and presence in the world.

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> I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.
> — *Ecclesiastes 3:12-13*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: food, joy, life, receiving, work

Interpretation:
The Book of Ecclesiastes is a treatise on biblical wisdom, calling us to reflect on life and its many facets. In *Ecclesiastes 3:12-13*, the author makes a compelling statement. This teaching, despite its simplicity, deeply covers several important aspects.

Rejoice in life

Joy is a feeling we all want to experience in life. However, we often allow worries, stress, and difficulties to overwhelm us, forgetting the importance of joy. Reading these verses, we can understand that joy is the key to a full and joyful life.

Joy allows us to savor the little things in life, such as a sunset, a delicious meal, or a conversation with friends. But it also makes us more resilient to difficulties, as it helps us view the world more optimistically and hopefully. Therefore, it can be said that joy is an essential component of a happy life.

Doing good in uur lives

Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 calls us to do good in our lives. What does this mean? Doing good is an attitude that is reflected in our daily actions. It means being honest, compassionate, generous, and fair. Doing good means opening up to the world, going beyond ourselves, and caring for others.

By doing good in our lives, we become agents of change and transformation. We can have a positive impact on the environment and contribute to building a more just and caring society. Doing good also brings us joy because we know we are doing something valuable and meaningful.

A different view of work and Its reward

People often have a negative attitude toward their work. It is seen as a duty or obligation that must be performed to earn a living, but it brings no joy. However, the author of Ecclesiastes calls us to value our work and the fruits of our labor. He shows us that God gives us the opportunity to enjoy what we have earned through our efforts and labor.

This means that life is not only about work, but also about enjoying its fruits. Work is important for earning a living, but enjoying its fruits is equally important. This is why the author of this book reminds us that the gift of enjoying what we have earned is the greatest gift we will ever receive.

A necessary balance

However, as with everything in life, a balance must be maintained between work and its reward. If we don't value work enough, we won't enjoy its fruits, but if we value the reward too much, we forget the importance of the process that allows us to earn it.

Our work and everything we do are important, but they are not all we are. We are multidimensional beings who require balance and harmony in our lives, and this is the most important lesson to be learned from these verses.

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> If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.
> — *Ecclesiastes 4:10*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: friendship, neighbor, relationships

Interpretation:
Ecclesiastes is a book of the Bible written by King *Solomon*, reflecting on the meaning of life and the pursuit of happiness. In this book, Solomon speaks of the futility of earthly pleasures and the importance of God's presence in our lives. This verse is found in chapter 4, where Solomon speaks of oppression and injustice in the world.

The value of mutual support

This verse speaks of the importance of mutual support and how we need others to overcome difficulties. In life, we always face difficulties and obstacles, but when there is someone who supports us and offers help, everything becomes easier. When we find ourselves in a difficult situation, it is important to have someone who will listen and support us.

Furthermore, mutual support allows us to grow together. By sharing our experiences and knowledge with others, we can learn from them and improve as individuals. The Bible teaches us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and mutual support is a practical manifestation of this love.

The danger of loneliness

This verse also reminds us of the dangers of loneliness. When we are alone, we can feel helpless and lost. The lack of communication and support can lead to sadness and depression. Moreover, when we are alone, we are more vulnerable to the attacks of the enemy.

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> Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

> — *Ecclesiastes 4:12*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: friendship, relationships, strength

Interpretation:
The Bible is full of truthful and wise messages that encourage us to reflect on our daily lives. The Book of Ecclesiastes offers us a very important verse to reflect on – *Ecclesiastes 4:12* – which speaks to the importance of community and how we can achieve more together.

One may overcome another, but two shall stand

First, the verse says, *"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves."* This means that if someone faces overwhelming odds, it is important to enlist the help and support of others to avoid being defeated. Life can be difficult, and we face many challenges, but having friends or family by our side makes it easier to overcome obstacles. The Bible encourages us to build a community of trust, where each member can provide support to others.

A threefold cord is not quickly broken

The verse continues, *"A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."* This is about the strength found in working together. A threefold cord is stronger than a doubled one. Similarly, when we are united, we can achieve more and overcome challenges more easily. This is especially important in emergency or crisis situations, when a cohesive group can make a huge difference.

Unity in diversity

It's important to remember that community is more than just people who share our views or beliefs. Diversity and inclusivity are fundamental principles for building a strong community. While it's tempting to surround yourself with like-minded people, it's important to have a diverse group of people who can offer different perspectives and skills. Unity in diversity is a powerful force in overcoming challenges.

The Bible teaches us to seek support in community and work together to achieve more. It reminds us of the need to be there for each other not only in crisis situations but also in everyday life. It is important to have people around us who support us and inspire us in our difficulties and dreams.

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> And I saw that all toil and all achievement spring from one person’s envy of another. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.
> — *Ecclesiastes 4:4*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: desires, materialism, neighbor, work

Interpretation:
Ecclesiastes 4:4 invites us to reflect on our feelings toward others and to realize that envy leads only to futility and anguish of spirit. We must learn to value our own abilities and achievements without constantly comparing ourselves to others.

Moreover, this verse calls upon us to show compassion to those around us and to avoid envying their successes and accomplishments. We ought to rejoice in the happiness and achievements of others and support one another in our endeavors and dreams. In doing so, we can build a society that is more just, harmonious, and equitable.

It highlights the realization that human activity and skill are often driven by the desire to attain a higher status than others. *Solomon* observed that the wheel of life turns on envy and a spirit of rivalry. The desire for a better home or finer clothing—all of this seemed so hollow and unworthy of a human being created in *the image and likeness of God*.

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> Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.
> — *Ecclesiastes 4:9*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: friendship, relationships, work

Interpretation:
Before delving into the meaning and application of *Ecclesiastes 4:9*, it is essential to understand the context and background of the book. Ecclesiastes was written by King *Solomon*—considered the wisest man in the Bible—likely toward the end of his life. In this book, Solomon reflects on the vanity

and meaninglessness of life, seeking answers through wisdom and experience.

In the chapters preceding verse 4:9, Solomon contemplates the loneliness and sorrow experienced by someone who works in isolation, with no one to share their labors or offer support during difficult times. It is against this backdrop that the assertion arises: two are better than one.

This verse teaches us the importance of teamwork, collaboration, and joining forces to achieve common goals. Two people working together can accomplish far more in less time and achieve superior results compared to working alone. This holds especially true in a professional setting, where collaboration and teamwork are vital to the success of any company or project. However, the message of *Ecclesiastes 4:9* applies to other aspects of life as well, such as interpersonal relationships, family, friendship, and faith.

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> Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.
>
> *— Ecclesiastes 5:10*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: greed, materialism, money

Interpretation:
One of the most common problems in modern society is an excessive love of money. Modernity and the capitalist world have taught us that the most important thing in life is having a lot of money, but the Bible teaches us something completely different: that the love of money is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 clearly states that those who love money will never be satisfied with it, no matter how much they have, and those who love wealth will never bear true fruit. This teaches us that the love of money or wealth is empty; it cannot satisfy and distances us from what is truly important.

How can we apply this verse to our lives?

Applying this verse to our lives is simple, but not easy. We must learn to value what is truly important, what is truly valuable. Love for God and family, love for our neighbors, honesty and integrity—these are what will bring us true happiness and satisfaction in life. We must learn to put money in its place,

viewing it as a means to satisfying our needs, not as an end in itself. We must be grateful for what we have and not desire more and more, as this only leads us to dissatisfaction.

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> As goods increase, so do those who consume them. And what benefit are they to the owners except to feast their eyes on them?
> — *Ecclesiastes 5:11*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: desires, materialism, money

Interpretation:
Ecclesiastes 5:11 discusses how material goods can multiply, but instead of benefiting their owner, they can be consumed by large numbers of people. In other words, the author of Ecclesiastes uses this verse to emphasize the futility of wealth.

Context explanation

The Book of Ecclesiastes focuses on the ephemerality of life and the reality of death. The author, attributed to *Solomon*, reflects on the futility of pursuing happiness and wisdom through wealth and the possession of material goods. In light of this, verse 5:11 invites us to reflect on how even acquired material goods can lose their value or provide no significant benefit.

The temptation of wealth

This verse also highlights the temptation associated with wealth and material goods. It's easy to fall into the trap of thinking that possessing certain goods will make us happy or provide financial security and stability. However, the author of Ecclesiastes reminds us that even the accumulation of possessions may not bring us significant benefits or long-term value.

The value of relationships

The Bible verse *Ecclesiastes 5:11* can also teach us the value of relationships. Instead of focusing on the accumulation of possessions, the author invites us to reflect on the importance of human relationships and how these relationships can provide lasting and meaningful value in our lives.

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> Everyone comes naked from their mother’s womb, and as everyone comes, so they depart. They take nothing from their toil that they can carry in their hands.
>
> *— Ecclesiastes 5:15*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: greed, heaven, materialism

Interpretation:
The book of Ecclesiastes is known for its philosophical reflections on life. Verse 15 of chapter 5, which speaks of our mortality, does not shy away from this topic.

Our fleeting existence on earth

In this verse, the author reminds us that our presence in this world is fleeting and ephemeral. We all came into this world naked and defenseless, and we will leave it the same. Therefore, we must make the most of our time on earth, without hiding from ourselves the reality of our mortality. Furthermore, the author reminds us that none of our possessions or achievements will follow us into the next world. Whatever wealth and property we acquire in life, it will all remain here on earth. Therefore, we must ask ourselves: What is the meaning of our lives? What will we leave behind in this world when we pass away?

A call to reflect on what's truly important

Throughout our lives, we tend to worry about trivial and fleeting things, losing sight of what's truly important. This verse reminds us of the importance of reflecting on our lives and our actions. Are we doing the right thing? Are we giving our best? It calls us to reflect on what's truly important and to value those around us. Instead of worrying about our possessions or accumulated power, we should focus on our own happiness and the happiness of those around us.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—for this is their lot.
> — *Ecclesiastes 5:18*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: food, life, receiving, work

Interpretation:
The book of Ecclesiastes, written by King *Solomon*, is known for its reflections on life and the things that really matter. In this particular verse, Solomon talks about what he believes is truly important in life: *enjoying the fruits of your labor*.

Eat, drink, and be merry

Some people may associate the idea of ??*"eat, drink, and be merry"* with pleasure-seeking and self-indulgence. But what Solomon is really talking about here is that it's good to enjoy the fruits of your labor. If we work hard every day, it's only fair that we also enjoy the fruits of that labor, whether it's a good meal, a refreshing drink, or anything else that makes us feel happy and fulfilled.

Rather than seeing this as an invitation to overindulge, we can see it as a reminder that we should take a moment to enjoy the fruits of our labor and celebrate our victories. This can help us feel more motivated and fulfilled in our daily work.

God's Reward

Solomon also notes that this is our reward for the work we do. It is important to remember that everything we do in life has a purpose and that our work is valued by God. Even if our work does not have an obvious purpose, we can be sure that there is a purpose to everything we do.

What happens to those who are unemployed?

It is important to note that not everyone has a job or has the opportunity to *"enjoy the fruits of their labor."* For those who are struggling to find a job or are in a difficult situation, finding happiness can be difficult. In such cases, it is important to remember that God is with us in these difficult times and that He is working in our lives in ways we cannot yet fully understand.

We must find a way to find joy in the little things and not allow adversity to overcome us. We can seek support from friends and family, in prayer, and in our own inner resistance. Life is not always easy, but

faith can give us the strength to move forward.

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> Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God.
>
> *— Ecclesiastes 5:19*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: food, joy, money, receiving, work

Interpretation:
The book of Ecclesiastes is one of the wise and instructive books of the Bible. In it, its author, presumably King *Solomon*, reflects on the pleasures, sorrows, and vicissitudes of life.

Enjoy divine blessings without guilt

Sometimes we feel guilty about enjoying God's blessings, either because we believe we don't deserve them or because we think it's better to be modest and avoid attention. However, *Ecclesiastes 5:19* reminds us that these blessings are God's gift, and therefore it is our duty to enjoy them. Of course, without falling into excess or arrogance, but always thanking the Lord for His generous blessings.

Work hard to enjoy blessings

Another important lesson from this verse is that to enjoy God's blessings, we must work hard. God does not bestow blessings and riches upon us magically or unfairly, but tests our capacity for effort and perseverance. It is our duty to strive for excellence in all we do and, as a result, to receive the rewards God has in store for us.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.
>
> — *Ecclesiastes 5:4*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: obedience, promises, reliability

Interpretation:
Ecclesiastes 5:4 speaks of the importance of keeping promises to God. If we make a promise to Him, we must fulfill it without delay. God does not favor those who fail to fulfill their promises and commitments.

Keeping promises

Keeping promises and commitments is an undervalued skill in our society. We often see people making promises without intending to keep them, or changing them to suit their needs. However, God expects something different from us. He calls us to be honest with ourselves and others and to keep our promises, even when they are difficult or unpleasant.

Faith is not only believing in God but also trusting Him enough to do our part. This means we must be willing to strive to fulfill our promises, despite the obstacles and difficulties that may arise along the way.

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> Do not say, “Why were the old days better than these?” For it is not wise to ask such questions.
>
> — *Ecclesiastes 7:10*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: life, wisdom

Interpretation:

The Book of Ecclesiastes is considered one of the philosophical books of the Bible. Its author, *Solomon*, reflects on the futility of life, the meaning of existence, and the search for wisdom. In chapter seven, the author discusses the wisdom necessary for life and emphasizes the importance of not dwelling on the past.

Interpretation of the verse

Ecclesiastes 7:10 warns us against the temptation to look back with nostalgia and think that the past was better than the present. According to the author, such an approach is unwise, as it prevents us from viewing reality objectively. Instead of lamenting the past, we should focus on the present and future and make wise and correct decisions in our lives.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider this: God has made the one as well as the other. Therefore, no one can discover anything about their future.
> — *Ecclesiastes 7:14*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: dependence, joy, life

Interpretation:
The Book of Ecclesiastes is a fascinating book of the Old Testament, full of wisdom and teachings that are still relevant today. *Ecclesiastes 7:14* encourages the reader to reflect in times of adversity and rejoice in times of prosperity.

Meaning of the verse

In the context of Ecclesiastes, the author uses the term "adversity" to refer to difficulties and challenging periods in life, and the term "blessing" to refer to moments of happiness and prosperity. This verse teaches us to be grateful and appreciate the good moments in life, but also to remember that adversity is a normal part of life, and we must be prepared to face it with wisdom and patience.

Furthermore, the author notes that God is responsible for creating both good and bad days. This statement applies not only to unexpected events that befall us, such as natural disasters or accidents,

but also to the logical consequences of our own actions, decisions, and inactions. Ultimately, the message of this verse is that everything that happens in our lives is part of a larger plan, and that we must find a way to live well in any circumstance.

Reflecting on days of adversity

In difficult times, it's easy to fall into despair or anger. However, *Ecclesiastes 7:14* calls us to reflect in such moments. What does this mean? First, it means taking time to reflect on the situation and find solutions. Instead of simply drifting along, we should take control of our lives and try to find ways to overcome obstacles.

It also means reflecting on our own actions and decisions that may have led to adversity. Instead of blaming others or circumstances, we should turn inward and strive to improve. Perhaps these adversities are an opportunity to learn valuable lessons and improve our lives in the future.

Enjoying goodness in prosperous days

It's just as easy to miss out on happy moments in life if we're not careful. *Ecclesiastes 7:14* encourages us to rejoice in the good things of our days. This means savoring all the good things in life and being grateful for them when we have them, rather than simply taking them for granted. It also means recognizing the opportunities good days present and making the most of them. If we're fortunate, perhaps it's time to help those less fortunate. Something as simple as a smile or a kind word can make a huge difference in someone's life.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins.
> — *Ecclesiastes 7:20*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: righteousness, sin, world

Interpretation:
The Book of Ecclesiastes, written by King *Solomon*, presents a philosophical approach to life, death, and human actions. In this context, verse 20 of chapter 7 speaks to us about righteousness and sin in

humanity.

No one on earth is sinless

The first part of the verse reveals that no one on earth is so righteous. This does not mean that there are no people who strive to do good and live according to ethical and religious principles. However, it teaches us that absolute human perfection does not exist. We all have weaknesses, temptations, and moments of weakness. Even the most noble and virtuous people can make mistakes and fall into sin.

This pessimism about human righteousness is found in many other places in the Bible, such as *Romans 3:10*, which states, *"There is no one righteous, not even one."* While some may find this idea discouraging, it can also be considered humbling and realistic.

Do good and sin not

The second part of the verse asserts that good and sin are opposites, which is a fundamental teaching of Christianity. Good refers to righteous and virtuous actions, while sin refers to actions that violate divine and human norms. This verse implies that moral perfection is unattainable for humans. Even if someone is considered righteous in society, they may have made mistakes in the past or will make them in the future. Moreover, the nature of sin is such that it can catch us off guard when we least expect it.

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> When the sentence for a crime is not quickly carried out, people’s hearts are filled with schemes to do wrong.
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> — *Ecclesiastes 8:11*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: evil, heart, judgment, punishment, sin

Interpretation:
The Book of Ecclesiastes is a poetic and philosophical work reflecting on the meaning of life and man's relationship with God. In chapter 8, verse 11, the author emphasizes the importance of justice and punishment to prevent people from committing evil deeds. This verse reminds us that if evil deeds go unpunished, people will be inclined to commit evil.

Justice in society

Justice is a fundamental value of any society that aspires to democracy and freedom. Without justice, the harmony of society will be undermined by impunity. If people do not see the consequences of their misdeeds, they themselves may be tempted to commit evil deeds, leading to a cycle of violence and impunity that undermines the social fabric.

The importance of punishment

Ecclesiastes 8:11 emphasizes the necessity of punishment to maintain justice in society. Punishment is not only a form of vengeance against the criminal but also a way to deter others from committing evil deeds. Therefore, punitive measures are necessary to respond to crimes committed and prevent their recurrence.

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> Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart, for God has already approved what you do.
> — *Ecclesiastes 9:7*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: bread, food, heart, joy, life, wine

Interpretation:
In this verse, the wise author of Ecclesiastes encourages us to find joy in enjoying earthly pleasures. Food and drink are two of life's greatest pleasures, and they are God's gifts that we should enjoy with gratitude and contentment. It's important to note that this is not a call to overindulgence, but rather to moderation and gratitude for what we have.

The importance of finding joy in simple things

In a society that increasingly values ??wealth, success, and power, life's simple joys are often overlooked. However, Ecclesiastes reminds us that true joy is found in the simplest, most everyday moments. A delicious meal with friends and family, a glass of wine at the end of a long day—these are what truly make life worth living. When we learn to appreciate these things and rejoice in what we already have, we become happier and more grateful.

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