

**Reading:** Ecclesiastes 6:8

**Topic:** The Wise vs. The Fool

**INTRODUCTION:** In our last lesson, we studied about the need for \_\_\_\_\_ and where to obtain it and in this lesson we shall look at the \_\_\_\_\_ between the wise and the fool.

## I. THE BASIC DIFFERENCES:

### A. *Wise or Fool?:*

1. In the Scripture that we read in the opening, the question is asked – “What does the \_\_\_\_\_ person have that the \_\_\_\_\_ does not have? Ecc. 6:8
2. In other words, the question being posed is – “What advantage is there to being \_\_\_\_\_, which does take effort to obtain, rather than being a \_\_\_\_\_ which requires no effort?”
3. This question troubled King Solomon when he was growing older and understanding that he would \_\_\_\_\_ one day and leave his wealth to another who might be a \_\_\_\_\_ man or a \_\_\_\_\_. Ecc. 2:18,19

### B. *Differences:*

1. The Word of God gives the most vivid description of the basic \_\_\_\_\_ between the wise and the fool by describing the location of the \_\_\_\_\_ of each of them. Ecc. 10:2
2. This description of the location of the \_\_\_\_\_ referring to the right hand and the left hand reveals the custom of ancient time where the right hand depicts wisdom and skill in using \_\_\_\_\_ and in contrast the left hand describes clumsiness and \_\_\_\_\_ of skill in using \_\_\_\_\_.

## II. THE WISE & THE FOOL:

### A. *Obedience:*

1. The Word of God states that the \_\_\_\_\_ individual will receive commandments or instruction, which means that he/she will be teachable and receptive to obeying \_\_\_\_\_. Pr. 10:8
2. On the other hand the Word of God describes the \_\_\_\_\_ as an individual who is prating or a know-it-all and is unteachable which will lead him/her to eventual \_\_\_\_\_. Pr. 16:18

### B. *Perception:*

1. The prideful heart of the \_\_\_\_\_ blinds him/her to the road that he/she is travelling on and they do believe that they are always \_\_\_\_\_. Pr. 12:15
2. On the other hand, the \_\_\_\_\_ individual has a spiritual perception and an ear to listen to advice of the experienced to guide him/her in to the \_\_\_\_\_ path to avoid trouble. Pr. 22:3

### C. *Spiritual Discernment:*

1. The Scripture describes a wise individual as one who has spiritual reverence and discernment to \_\_\_\_\_ the pitfall of Satan and the evil trap and to \_\_\_\_\_ it and go in the opposite direction. Pr. 14:16
2. On the other hand, the fool lacks spiritual discernment and is overconfident, \_\_\_\_\_ blindly into the \_\_\_\_\_ of Satan because he/she is confident in themselves and not in God. Pr. 27:12
3. This ability to be discerning is compared to having \_\_\_\_\_ to see what is ahead and the Scripture is

clear that the \_\_\_\_\_ have those \_\_\_\_\_ while the fool is walking blindly into trouble. Ecc. 2:14

**D. Speaking:**

1. When it comes to talking, in plain words the \_\_\_\_\_ does not know how to keep his/her mouth shut and speaks everything that comes to \_\_\_\_\_, rather than thinking it over first. Pr. 29:11
2. On the other hand, the \_\_\_\_\_ individual filters his/her thought and ponders them before speaking, thus avoiding blurting out hurtful and unwise \_\_\_\_\_ that cause grief and trouble. James 1:19
3. The Word of God states that even a \_\_\_\_\_ would be thought to be \_\_\_\_\_ if he/she kept the mouth \_\_\_\_\_ instead of rashly speaking. Pr. 17:28
4. The Scripture reveals that when the \_\_\_\_\_ person does open the mouth to speak, the \_\_\_\_\_ that come out are gracious – helpful and upbuilding, while the \_\_\_\_\_ speaks words that will eventually end up destroying him/her. Ecc. 10:12

**E. Correction:**

1. When it comes to receiving correction, again the \_\_\_\_\_ between the wise and the fool manifests in the manner of the \_\_\_\_\_ to the admonishment of the corrector. Pr. 9:8
2. The scorner or the fool will become \_\_\_\_\_ and hateful towards the one who is trying to correct him/her – not receiving the words that will \_\_\_\_\_ them from future trouble.
3. On the other hand, the \_\_\_\_\_ individual will be grateful for the correction and will appreciate the words of the corrector, realizing that it is for their \_\_\_\_\_ and their salvation.

**CONCLUSION:** When we examine the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, the differences are very clear from the Word of God. May we examine ourselves and see which traits that we manifest in our own lives and if we need to \_\_\_\_\_, let us pray for \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid being a fool!