

ECCLESIASTES

A teaching by David L. Fields
(Transcribed from a message taught at the Third Day Fellowship)

Chapter Ten

Verse:

1. *Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savor: so does a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honor.*
2. *A wise man's heart is at his right hand; but a fool's heart at his left.*
3. *Yes also, when he that is a fool walks by the way, his wisdom fails him, and he says to every one that he is a fool.*
4. *If the spirit of the ruler rise up against thee, leave not thy place; for yielding pacifies great offences.*
5. *There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, as an error which proceeds from the ruler:*
6. *Folly is set in great dignity and the rich sit in low places.*
7. *I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth.*
8. *He that digs a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaks a hedge, a serpent shall bite him.*
9. *Whoso remove stones shall be hurt therewith; and he that cleaves wood shall be endangered thereby.*
10. *If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, them must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.*
11. *Surely the serpent will bite without enchantment; and a babbler is no better.*
12. *The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious; but the lips of a fool will swallow up himself.*
13. *The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness: and the end of his talk is mischievous madness.*
14. *A fool also is full of words: a man cannot tell what shall be; and what shall be after him, who can tell him?*
15. *The labor of the foolish wearies every one of them, because he knows not how to go to the city.*
16. *Woe to you, O land, when thy king is a child, and thy princes eat in the morning!*
17. *Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!*
18. *By much slothfulness the building decays; and through idleness of the hands the house drops through.*
19. *A feast is made for laughter, and wine makes merry: but money answers all things.*
20. *Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter.*

Obviously we know that there is a spiritual understanding to this book. So reading this in a historical sense or just for a sense of natural wisdom, what good would it do us? So we need to look at this the way that the Spirit of God was speaking it, would you agree with that? So we need to see the spiritual side of what He is trying to tell us in this.

Vs 1 He said, *‘Dead flies (literally they are ‘stinging flies) cause the ointment, (or the anointing) of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savor.* Now the ointment is what stinks. It says *‘the ointment of the apothecary. What does the apothecary mean? It’s the person. It is the person who mixes these things; perfumes or anointing or drugs. A druggist is what we would call him today. It is someone who mixes drugs. So when you are making this sweet perfume, this anointing for God, for the Tabernacle, if he didn’t watch it the dead flies would get in it. So do you know what? They would have to be responsible for straining those suckers out, wouldn’t they? Somebody has to keep them out of there and if they got in there, they had to get them out. If he left them in there, it would cause that beautiful smell that they use in their anointing, to not be so good. I wonder what a fly or an insect might be? It’s the bad thought process. Some people would say that it is demons, but it is thought processes. ‘To send forth a stinking ‘smell’: so doth a little foolishness him that is in reputation for wisdom and honor.* So a person who has a reputation for wisdom and honor, a little bit of foolishness, what does it do to them? It destroys their beautiful smell to God also. Because are we not the savor that has been sent forth to God. A sweet smelling savor unto God; aren’t we that? So if we throw foolishness in our life guess what? We have messed up our walk and ourselves with God. We put those flies in our ointment, or our anointing.

Vs 2 It says, *‘a wise man’s heart is in his right hand’* speaking of what? The strength and authority of God. *‘But a fools heart at his left’;* that’s in himself. And literally in the scripture it says, your right hand that speaks of the south, because they always take it in relation of facing towards the East and the right hand South and the left hand is to the North. South is a place of comfort, what’s North? Judgment and conviction; see a lot of things come at you from that side. So a fool is bringing things on himself isn’t he? Now look at verse three:

Vs 3 ‘Yea also, when he that is a fool walks by the way, (in the course of life) his wisdom what? Well, the word ‘wisdom’ isn’t right. It’s the Hebrew word ‘Labe’. What would Labe be? His Heart. So his heart failed him. So we are not talking about wisdom here are we? We are talking about our heart, our internal part. When a fool walks by the way, his heart fails him (or is lacking) and he says to every one what? That he is a fool. Now do you think that a fool walks down the road and

says, “Hey Bob, I’m a fool; Hey Bill, I’m a fool; Steve, I’m a fool”? Now is that what he is saying? He is saying that’s your lifestyle, and everyone that is doing these things from this foolish side thinks, ‘nobody can see me.’ And that just makes you a bigger fool. Do you see what I mean? We have to realize that what we do speaks volumes to people around us.

I have this little thing in my office, it says ‘*Excuse me, I can’t hear you; your lifestyle is speaking louder than your words.*’ Your lifestyle speaks for you. If I am what I say I am, you will be able to agree with me. If I say I’m one thing and I am doing something else, guess what? Everybody sees it. If you go down a street to most people who live close to a (quote) church, and you ask them what they think of the average preacher or the people that go there? What do they say about them? They are Hypocrites, why? They see them in their actions. You see, your actions are supposed to be agreeing with what you believe in your heart. So in their heart, they are truly not what they are telling everybody else; they’re a hypocrite, and a hypocrite is someone who is a stage actor; a play actor acting something that they’re not. And that is what most Christian people, or quote “Christian people” or church folk do, they tell everybody, ‘Well I’ve been to church on Sunday.’ Well how does that make me good? You know the guys who go to the Eagles today who sit and drink and watch football went to a club too. What is the difference? It’s just a social club. If I am going to say that I am a Son of God then I’ve got to walk like a Son of God. Does that make sense? We don’t have any choice in this matter. You see this isn’t a Dave’s rule. I’m telling you what God said; if I’m going to be a Son of God, I’ve got to walk like a Son of God. I can’t walk like something else; like a son of man and try to say that I am a Son of God. O.K.? So we have to realize that our lifestyle speaks for us.

Vs 4 “*If the spirit of a ruler rise up against you, leave not your place for yielding pacifies great offences.*” This is worded totally wrong. ‘If the spirit of a ruler rises up against you; if a king came up against you, or if the President came up against you, the governor of a state or the mayor of a city came up against you, it says ‘leave not your place’. Does that make sense? Are you going to sit there and bull yourself up against all these people?

The next verse says ‘because yielding ‘settles or quiets great offenses’. Now how could my sitting there fighting with some body settle anything? The language literally says, ‘remain not in your place’. Don’t stay in your place. If they come against you, just pacify and step back from it. Don’t let it come against you, because you are going to be the one to get hurt. They have the power, in the natural.

Vs 4 And he says, *'there is an evil which I have seen under the sun, as an error which proceeds from the face...and the word 'from' is 'paniem' from the face of the ruler'*. What is he speaking of there? It is from the mind of the ruler. Now, he is telling you that the people who are sitting in power and ruling on this earth are not real godly people. You know God sets people that are not godly. Do you know that? He sets people that are not godly people. I think God set Bill Clinton, and everybody knows that he ain't real godly. I don't care. That is what God did. If God wants him there for a purpose, I don't care. I don't think that George Bush is a real Christian either. I think he says what he wants; he's a politician. Anybody that is a politician; I don't think that they can be a Son of God. I just don't believe it. They can say what they want, but I don't believe it. They can't convince me of that, because if you're in that life, you are going to be twisted by somebody who has the money strings. But anyway he sees that this *'proceeds from the mind of the ruler'* he says, *'this is what the thing is'*. People regarded the word folly, it reads literally this: *'People that are regarded as stupid'* that is what the language says. *'People that are regarded as stupid are set in a place of great dignity and a noble people set in a place of humility'*. Now can you tell me a word for that? It is when people just take family members and they don't care whether they are qualified are not and put them in *'nepotism'* you see it was alive back then, we just have a name for it now.

Vs 7 'I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth'.

Vs 8 'He that digs a pit will fall into it'. Does that sound kind of like: You reap what you sow? *'Whoso breaks a hedge, a serpent shall bite him'*. If there is a protection around someone and you rip it down, what's going to bite you? You can jump on somebody that's protected, they feel they're protected and you invade their space, tell me, what are they going to do? They're going to bite you. And the serpent in that person is the one that is going to bite you, isn't it? It is like a lot of other things we can look through in scripture and see parallels in that.

Vs 9 'Whoso removes stones shall be hurt therewith.' There was a practice in the culture where they set stones to mark places, and people would move that stone so they could have a greater piece of ground, or someone would have a lesser piece of ground. It is like our survey stakes we put in the ground today. It's a marker. So if you pick up those stones and move them some place then those stones are going to hurt you; it's kind of like reaping and sowing again isn't it? It is the same thing if I try to cheat somebody on a piece of property guess what? It will come back and get me someday or another. And if I know that, then why would I be foolish enough to do it? It would be like sticking your hand into a meat grinder; you'll stick it in there to see what it would do. I know what it is going to do; I'm not going to stick

my hand in there. *He that cleaves wood shall be endangered thereby.* And what does wood represent? Humanity. So if you hurt humanity, humanity will get you back. Isn't that the nature of humanity? It is revenge or retaliation.

Vs 10 *If the iron (or literally the iron tool, or the ax) be dull and he do not whet the edge (or sharpen it), then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to (not 'direct'); but to proceed and prosper.*

Let's go back to this ax: 'if the ax is not sharpened then you have to take a lot more physical strength to work on this wood you're chopping. What does it say in Proverbs, about iron? *Iron sharpens iron.* What would that tell you about this verse? Think on this: *If you do not whet the edge?* You have to get around people. You see a lot of people isolate themselves from around people, because people irritate or agitate them. But what do you think that is? *Iron sharpening iron.* You see your stiff will is being rubbed by their stiff will. They're going to rub each other and grind some of you off. That's the purpose of this thing. It works both ways. It is just like the stones that they used to build the tabernacle, it says when the temple was built there was no sound of an iron tool. And that 'iron' speaks of the stubborn will of humanity. So it was all done without, so that when you come within there is no commotion, no confusion, there's no struggle inside. But it says there was no sound of an iron tool. How do you think they made those stones perfect? They were just like a box six sided. Now if you take the box and you get another box, representing two people. And rub these two boxes together. Now one of them could be hard and stiff necked and one of them could be softer. Which one do you think would be changed? The soft one. Now the hard one can be used as a tool, or the stiff tool can work it on. Which one do you think that you would prefer to be? Most people think they can stay away from people and continue to walk in the Kingdom of God and be changed. But I don't see how anyone could be possibly because the Kingdom of God is within you. You will never believe that you are in the Kingdom of God truly until you feel that you can deal with humanity and all its flaws and imperfections. Then you'll know where you are. Because Jesus didn't walk as a Son of man up there in the heavenlies, he walked right here on this earth. So we need to know all about this being stiff-necked and hardheaded, without choosing to be right; it's not about being right. It's about doing what our Father told us to do. It's not about doing what I want to do. I'm sure the scriptures read very plainly when the son said, 'Father, it's not my will, but it's your will that I will be doing. So guess what? That has nothing to do with what you want to do or what somebody else wants to do, but it's what the Father wants. If I'm a son, I am going to do what the Father wants. If I'm a disobedient son then I will probably be doing what I want to do and in turn you will be doing what the Father wants.

Vs 11 'Surely the serpent will bite without enchantment; what is this really saying? Literally, if the serpent will bite without charming or words and a babbler are no better (literally the word babbler is 'the master of the tongue'. He is saying that the master of the tongue is no different than the serpent. Do you know that the serpent doesn't have to be charmed to talk? The serpent loves to talk. Go back to the beginning in the Garden of Eden; did the serpent get asked any questions to start the conversation? No, the serpent spoke to Eve, and he started everything. She wasn't looking for the serpent; the serpent came and looked for her. He was right between her ears. He knew right where she was. It didn't need to be charmed, it did it on it's own. And the master of the tongue is at more advantage. What is the difference? This master of the tongue; and James said that the tongue is a deadly evil set on fire of hell, right? Guess what? This tongue is not something that you can take lightly. If I can't control my tongue, guess what? I've got a problem, because the Book says if you can control your tongue, you are a perfect and a complete man. Now how many of us are perfect and complete that we control this tongue, and we don't speak the words of death; but we always speak the words of life? Not very many have gotten to where they can control the tongue. All manner of creeping things and flying things and fish and things that have been tamed by man, but the tongue no man can tame. That is not saying that you cannot attain to that. All that is saying is that you can't do it on your own. The only way that I know I can do it is through the Christ that dwells within me. It has nothing to do with what I can do. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me; not on what I think I can do. You see if these thought processes that originated inside of me, if they don't come from the Spirit of God in me, they are iniquity. And that is where most of the people today are working. They are working from a thought process that comes out of their human thinking, and not out of the spiritual thinking of their spirit. So if it comes from the spirit what is it? It's spirit. If it comes from my carnal thinking what is it? It's carnal.

Vs 12 'The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious; but the lips of a fool will swallow him up; literally it will destroy him. The lips of a fool will destroy himself. He'll destroy himself by what? His words. You will either speak words of life, or you will speak words of death. Now which one do you think you need to hear? We always think that we have arrived somewhere and all we have to do is listen to the words that come out of your mouth. See, people think that sons of God, whether they be male or female (it's not an issue with me); the ones who are sons of God, everybody thinks they are stupid because they don't see what you see. They see something a little further than what you see. So everybody thinks, 'well they're so wound up into spiritual things that they're so heavenly minded that they can't pay

attention to these earthly things. But now you see, Jesus walked around all the time and as he walked around and talked to his disciples, and the Pharisees and the Scribes; the scriptures says it this way: *He perceived what they were thinking about*. He knew what they were thinking in their minds; now, if he was the son and he had this ability of discernment, don't you believe that the sons have this same gift. So when people say things to me: 'Oh yes, I'm faithful; I'm honest, I don't do this, I don't do that.'

I've got this little saying in my office, and I use it quite often, I have for years. It says: 'Excuse me, I can't hear you, your lifestyle is speaking louder than your words.' So when people say, 'Oh, I'm a good Christian man and I'm a good Christian woman, I am faithful. The word faithful means 'full of faith' and I don't believe it. Not by what their lifestyle is portraying to me. Because their lifestyle speaks multitudes and volumes of things that they don't see. And that is because of deception that is within us. The worst thing that I find out about deception is that it will deceive you. So if you are deceived then guess what? That means that you couldn't possibly know what you're doing. If I am deceived in a subject, or anything in any part of my life then I can't see that I am possibly doing wrong. And this is a place that every child of God must come to, to enter the Kingdom. I must come to a place where I can say this: I can say that you or your thought process or my thought process might be wrong. And I need to search the scriptures daily to see if what things are said are true. And if not, then guess what I have to do? I have to stand up before myself first of all and say, 'Dave, you had a wrong thought process, you need to re-evaluate your thinking.' If this piece of your thinking is wrong, there is a possibility that something else could be too, and that should drive you so deep into the word of God and fellowship with Him, you'll find out what it is really about. Many people today teach that you don't have to worry about the scriptures, just trust what is within you. Then why in the world would God have a book written, with three quarters of a million or one half million words in it, if there is no reason for it? That book is there as a square, a plumb bob; it's a level. Jesus is the word. Jesus in the foundation. So, the foundation of everything that I am going to do in Christ is going to be in this word. If it's not in there, then I don't believe it. I know God can speak things in your heart, but this written word will never, ever contradict anything he speaks to me. Now I am not speaking of the King James language, I'm speaking of the language that He really spoke; it is what the Spirit said. And know that this Bible was written in parables, allegories, metaphors, christophany, theopany all the symbolisms. So I am not speaking of the literal letter of the word, which brings us death. I am speaking of something much better than that.

Vs 13 *'The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness'* Now who is this talking about? We can go back and it talks about this fool all the way back to the third verse. *'The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness'*. And in the third verse it says: *When he walks by the way, his wisdom fails him, and he says to every one that he is a fool.* Now we know that he is not walking around saying, 'Hey, did you know that I'm a fool?' No, it's what he is doing in his lifestyle that speaks louder than what he says with his own mouth. Because in his mouth he says and thinks that he is a wise person, but do you know what? If you just follow and be swift to hear and slow to speak and let them speak; let them speak out because they will reveal volumes of information about themselves. That is why it's so good to listen and be slow to speak. Be quick to hear, because you will hear more and learn more by hear then by speaking. *'And the end of this talk is mischievous madness'* or literally evil madness.

Vs 14 *'A fool is full of words and Adam cannot know what exists and what exists after him, who can tell? Adam, the natural man; the book says that the natural man receives not the things of God because they are spiritually discerned. So it has to be the spirit man who receives this. So the spirit man receives the spiritual things from the Spirit of God so we can have light and understanding in our vessel. The natural man is just along for the ride. And right now most people have their natural man running the show. That is not a good idea. 14) A fool is full of words.* This is what I said about talk, talk, talk, talk, talk; it's all about knowing when to be quiet and when to speak. A fool wants to speak all the time without knowing what he is really saying. He just wants to talk. *'He can't know what shall be;'* He doesn't know what's coming. Or what shall be after him or what exists after him. Only God has the total vision, and anyone else that has it, it's because God gave it to them, and I don't believe that all these soothsayers or these prognosticators that say they know everything about you, I don't believe in that stuff; if you want to believe it then that's up to you. I don't.

Vs 15 *'The labor of the foolish wearies every one of them, because they know not how to go to the city.'* **The labor of the foolish.** Do you think he is talking of worldly people? Worldly people were not trying to get to the city. I am speaking about the heavenly Jerusalem. Worldly people are not looking for the heavenly Jerusalem. Worldly people are looking for some kind of physical comfort here on this earth. The heavenly Jerusalem is not something that is an external city to start with. It's an internal city just like the Kingdom of God is internal. And Jesus said to the Pharisees and the Scribes in Luke 17:20 Behold the Kingdom of God is within you. It's within all of us, but do you know what? We have to know that? And we only know that by the Spirit of God. We don't know that by the natural;

we don't know where God is or what He's doing. And we're certainly not looking for the city of God until God brings us to life. And this city, like I said, is the spiritual city that we need to come to.

Vs 16 '*Woe unto you O Land, woe* (pain, grief, and suffering) It means basically the same thing in the Greek or the Hebrew. It speaks of pain, grief and suffering to you, O Land. Do you think that the earth out there feels pain, grief and suffering? Now come on, you have got to know that this is something spiritual. The "land" is us and we're made from the dust of the earth; we were formed from the dust of the earth. We weren't created there; we were created spirit and, placed in the dust of the earth, formed in it as Adam. *Woe unto you O land, when your king* (or your ruler) *is a child*; or literally immature *and your princes eat in the morning.*' I'm not speaking breakfast here; it's about the people that rebelled all night long and woke up in the morning and began to eat and party again. And when I say eat and party, guess what? I'm taking about drinking. That is what goes with the culture there. I mean the eating and the drinking. When they ate a feast, they drank with the feast, and they drank their wine; they got drunk. So when the rulers stayed drunk all day long, you're in trouble. A lot of pain, grief, and suffering will come to you when your leadership is drunk. And there are a whole lot of people today that are drunk with the wine of fornication that's put in the cup of the Babylonian harlot, which is right inside of each one of us. That Babylonian whore is our soul, and she has defiled us and caused us all to commit fornication with her, so guess what? You better go back and see what it's all about. Now he turns it around and we get the positive side of it.

Vs 17 '*Blessed art thou O land*' (That's us again). '*When your king is the son of nobles* (that word noble is white, pure or righteous). So it says when your ruler is right, pure or righteous or literally 'Son of God' does that make sense? When your King is the Son of God. Didn't Jesus say he was the King? The scripture called Him 'The King'. So when your King is Christ and He is in you, and you are ruled by this King of God guess what? The princes eat in due season; or now, when you need it and you are blessed. He and he said you do it for one reason, for strength. When I partake of the Lord, (you know He said we are to eat His flesh and drink His blood.) When I partake of the Lord it's for strength. It is His strength not my strength. And when I partake of it, it's not for drunkenness. I do what I need. I take the wine that I need from the Lord, that new wine. I don't drink so I can feel good and get high and feel goose bumps on top of goose bumps and my hair stands up. That's not it. I do it for His strength so I can do the works that He sent me to do. And that is what you are supposed to do.

Vs 18 *'By much slothfulness* (the word literally is 'lazy'); *By much laziness, the building decays.* We are the building. Know ye not that ye are the habitation of God? Know ye not that ye are the temple of the Holy Ghost? *By much laziness the building decays.* We are told to search the scriptures study to show yourself approved. Right? So if we are not doing these things, this building is going to decay. And through the idleness of the hands, the house leaks. So when the rain does come, guess what? The house is in no condition to receive what has to come, so it is going to leak through and destroy the building. You see there is power of life and death in the tongue. And when I don't prepare myself a living habitation for the Almighty God to dwell in guess what? When that word comes, it won't bring life to me, it will bring death to me. It will bring destruction. As I minister, I can see life going into people and I can see people sitting there and the word is killing them. And I don't just mean in this place that I am ministering today; I am talking about anywhere I go. I can be in a restaurant talking to someone and I can see someone two or three tables over hearing what I'm saying; Their ear looks like a big megaphone stretched out there, like a big horn trying to catch every word I'm saying. And then I can see people that I'm talking to not hearing a thing. So it doesn't make any difference, I'm just a seed sower. I'm gong to do what God has me to do. He didn't give me this to hold on to; He gave it to me to give to you. So here it is, it's free.

Vs 19 *'A feast is made for laughter and wine makes merry, but money speaks to all.* The love of money is the root of all-evil; money is not evil. But this love of money is the thing that gets everybody's attention. The Kingdom of God is not about money. Most of what we do on this earth takes finances nobody gives you anything. I can't buy tapes; I can't buy recorders and duplicators and computers and paper and print, and all the things that I've got to have without finances. Do you think I can buy this for nothing? You think I can go to the stores and say, "Hey I want this, God wants it and they'll give it to me?" Not in this evil generation, they want your money. So money is needed to operate on but it's not the focus of everything. It's not to see how much money you can accumulate, but it's about functioning with what God gives you and doing that which He has given you to do.

Vs 20 *'Curse not the King. Not even in your thoughts. And curse not the noble* (it's speaking about the Son again; the Christ, the King) *in thy bed chamber because a bird of the air* (or the heavens) *shall carry the voice and that which has wings shall tell the matter.'*

Literally, it says and the Master of the winged creature shall expose that word. And literally who is the Master of that winged creature? It's the same master we have.

Now he told us to take dominion over the world and subdue all the creatures on the earth. But you see, the Christ is the one who is the King, not us in the flesh; the Christ in us. So when He says the master of the winged creature shall expose the word, guess what? God is going to see to it that whatever word needs to be exposed will be exposed. Do you know how many people say things about me? People in this fellowship, people all over the community, people all over the country; they talk about me. I'm nobody; I'm just a piece of the body. People who have never seen me say all sorts of things about me that they have heard from rumors. And there are people who do know me and do listen to me and they take my words and twist them. Do you know what? That is none of my concern. Because when Jesus spoke, they always tried to twist his words. When the word of God was spoken in the Garden of Eden, didn't the serpent take and twist and lie about the words; changed the words; little subtle things to change the whole meaning. 'If you eat of the tree you will be as God.' That's a lie; you are already created as gods. Doesn't the scripture say so? Have I not said in my word, Psalm 82:6 *Ye are gods*? Didn't He say it in John 10:34 *Is it not written in your word that I said you are gods*? You see you don't believe you are gods; there is your problem. I'm not talking about a god in the natural. I'm talking about a god in the spirit. We are the God-Son. We are not the God we are His sons. Everything He is, I am. Is that true or false? Everything that God is is within me. His DNA is in me spiritually. I'm not talking about the natural; I'm talking about spiritually. So guess what? God is in control of it all. We are His sons and **HE WILL** see to it that it is exposed. So you continue to talk all you want to talk, it doesn't make any difference to me, because that is not my focus. My focus is in accomplishing what my Father has sent me here to do. And as far as I'm concerned, nothing else matters.