
Ecclesiastes 7:11-12: Wisdom is good with an inheritance: and by it there is profit to them that see the sun. For wisdom is a defense, and money is a defense: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it

Remember that we are studying the writings of the wisest man that ever walked the earth (save the Lord Jesus Christ, whose wisdom transcended Solomon's); that coupled with this being God's Word ought to teach us how much we need God to understand it.

Let us first define wisdom: What is wisdom? Job 28:12, 28.

Wisdom in the Biblical sense is the right use of/practical application of what one has learned of God from His Word? Wisdom is LIVED TRUTH!

Keep in mind that there is such a thing as "bad wisdom": Both good and bad wisdoms are defined for us: James 3:13-18. Micah 2:1

But back to Biblical wisdom; someone who is godly wise isn't one who is simply full of Biblical knowledge; they are "wise" because they apply what they have learned to their lives; they walk/practice God's truth in their minds, in their conduct, and in their conversation. But there also this, THAT ONE who is WISE (IS SO) because he/she knows that they MUST continue to learn.

Learn: Proverbs 1:5, 9:8-9, Behaves wisely: Proverbs 15:1-2, 29:11, Cautious: 22:3, Hebrews 11:7

Bottom line: You can't put a value on godly wisdom, and that is because of the profit that it brings to the life/soul!

Back to our text: I think the key to understanding (7:11-12) is found in the last phrase of (7:12): "The excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it"

(7:11A): "Wisdom is good with an inheritance"

This is no doubt a comparison (or similarities) made by Solomon between wisdom and money (or wealth). In this statement, I believe Solomon wrote of the "utility" value that wisdom brings to the possessor of it. HERE in the text: The value that wisdom bring to one who receives an "inheritance".

The profit (or the utility value) of wisdom in (7:11) is that the person who has WISDOM, will make WISE USE ~ make WISE DECISIONS with a received inheritance.

"By it there is profit to them that see the sun" (similar to saying "under the sun")

An inheritance is BETTER when the one who receives it POSSESSES godly wisdom!

Here's the comparison (or similarities) that Solomon makes between money and wisdom:

Both wisdom and money are a defense! Defense MEANS: "SHADOW". What does it mean to "IN" or "UNDER" THE SHADOW but to be protected by that which casts the shadow or provides the defense. *Psalms 17:8, 36:7, 91:1*

Let us start with money being a DEFENCE: To those who do not have money, there are fears; they are in an unsafe place. For the husband, he fears he cannot take care of his wife and children. In this sense, money is a defense. Those who do not have sufficient enough money worry about where their next meal is going to come from, how they will pay their rent or mortgage, how they will put gas in the car, how they will pay for the doctor, etc.

Hence, money is a defense, but it is limited to providing a defense and protection for ONLY the temporal and perishable things of this life. YES: needed things, but not things that are NEEDFUL for the soul!

Here is the Excellency of Wisdom as a DEFENCE!

Back to (7:11): Wisdom makes an inheritance BETTER; and bottom line, those that are wise will fare better in earthly, temporal things:

“BUT, the excellency of knowledge (or, THIS is more excellent knowledge); (THAT) wisdom giveth life to them that have it”

What a shame for any soul to be wise ONLY in the things of the world, but NOT in the care of their own souls. In the Wisdom of God, there is life to the soul!

Psalm 19:7, Proverbs 8:11, 3:13-18, 4:5-9, 14-19, 8:32-35, 2 Timothy 3:14-17

See here the Excellency of WISDOM in that it reveals God to the mind and imparts life to the soul! GET that wisdom!

Colossians 1:9: “For this cause we also. Since the day we heard of it (that is, heard of your faith in Christ and your love for the saints) do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding”

Colossians 3:16: “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in Psalm and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord”

James 1:5-7: “If any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering, for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord”