

Application Questions

Ecclesiastes 7:1-12

In verse 1, Solomon reflects on the value of a good name. How can a name be harmed in times of adversity? How can it be built up? How have your actions impacted your name during times of stress and challenge?

In verse 2, Solomon ponders the advantage of mourning. What are the good things that mourning can produce? Why does Solomon see mourning as preferred?

In verse 5, Solomon considers the power of a godly rebuke. Consider times when you were rebuked in the past. How did you receive the rebuke? Were you changed?

Consider verse 6. What happens when weeds are used for firewood? Why does Solomon compare this to the laughter of fools?

In verse 8, we have a discussion on patience. When suffering tribulation and affliction, does patience seem impossible? Are you angry or patient? How can an understanding of God's sovereignty help us be patient?

Verse 10 reflects on nostalgic remembrances of earlier days. Why is this tendency to be avoided when going through times of adversity?

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

A note to our visitors

It is a pleasure having you as a special guest in our Sunday worship today. We hope that you feel warmly welcomed by those around you.

Our goal at Providence Church is to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ through biblical worship and through a lifestyle of community to others. We consider it a privilege to make ourselves available to you and your family, and would appreciate the opportunity to get to know you better.

Perhaps you are new to the area and are searching for a church. Whether this is the case or whether you are simply visiting, we hope that it will not be your last time with us. Feel free to contact us at the church office (309-387-2600) if there is any way that we can be of service to you, or if you have questions that you would like answered about Providence Church or the Christian Faith.