



“Solomon’s Seven Ways to a
Better Life”

Part 2

Ecclesiastes 7:1-4

Solomon's Three of the Seven Ways to Become a Better Person

- I. Be a Person of Character (v. 1)
- II. Take a Tour of a Mortuary (v. 2)
- III. Make Time for Sadness (vv. 3-4)

Solomon's Four of the Seven Ways to Become a Better Person

Welcome Constructive Criticism (vv. 5-7)

Verse 5-- it's better to hear the rebuke of the wise than for a man to hear the song of fools, for like the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool. This also is vanity. Surely, oppression destroys a wise man's reason, and a bribe debases the heart.

Solomon's Four of the Seven Ways to Become a Better Person

Psalm 141 verse 5-- let the righteous strike me, and it shall be a kindness. Let him rebuke me, it shall be as excellent oil. Let not my head refuse it.

Solomon's Four of the Seven Ways to Become a Better Person

Proverbs 15:5 “a fool despises his father's instruction, but he who receives correction is prudent.

Proverbs 17:10 “rebuke is more effective for a wise man than 100 blows for a fool.

1. Proverbs 25:12 “like an ornament of fine gold is a wise rebuke to an obedient ear.”

5. Learn Patience Along the Way (vv. 8-10)

Verse 8-the end of a thing is better than its beginning, the patient in spirit better than the proud in spirit. Do not hasten or hurry in your spirit to be angry, for anger rests in the bosom of fools. Do not say, why were the former days better than these, for you do not inquire wisely concerning this.

5. Learn Patience Along the Way (vv. 8-10)

We learn patience through trials and
adversity.

Don't look back at the good old days. Make
these days the best

1. the poet said. Seize the day. Let this day be
the best.

6. Make Wisdom Your Defense (vv. 11-12)

New Living Translation. Being wise is as good as being rich. In fact, it's better. Wisdom or money can get you almost anything, but it's important to know only wisdom can save your life.

wisdom is accumulated philosophic or scientific learning, i.e. knowledge.

6. Make Wisdom Your Defense (vv. 11-12)

David said, the fool has said in his heart, there is no God. That's a foolish person. Wisdom in the biblical sense is somebody who is skilled at living godly-- skilled at living right.

Ecclesiastes 10:2 The heart of the wise inclines to the right, but the fool to the left

7. Trust God to Balance Out Your Life (vv. 13-14)

James 4:14. Now listen, you who say today or tomorrow we will go to this city or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money. Why, you don't even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? It's a mist that appears for a little while and vanishes.

When God Wants to Drill A Man

When God wants to drill a man,
And thrill a man,
And skill a man

When God wants to mold a man
To play the noblest part;

When God Wants to Drill A Man

When He yearns with all His heart
To create so great and bold a man
That all the world shall be amazed,
Watch His methods, watch His ways!

How He ruthlessly perfects
Whom He royally elects!

When God Wants to Drill A Man

How He hammers him and hurts him,
And with mighty blows converts him
Into trial shapes of clay which
Only God understands;

When God Wants to Drill A Man

While his tortured heart is crying
And he lifts beseeching hands!

How He bends but never breaks
When his good He undertakes;
How He uses whom He chooses,

When God Wants to Drill A Man

And which every purpose fuses him;
By every act induces him
To try His splendor out-
God knows what He's about.

– Anonymous