

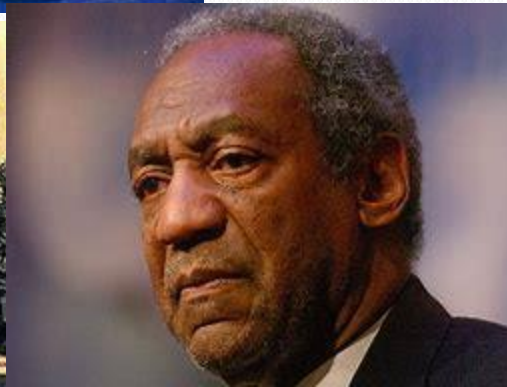
C.S.I.

(Common Sense Instruction)

From Ecclesiastes 10

Verse 1 Is About Lifestyle

*“Dead flies putrefy the perfumer’s ointment,
And cause it to give off a foul odor;
So does a little folly to one respected
for wisdom and honor.”*





- What *you do* with *your REPUTATION* is important
- A little wrong (just a fly in the fragrance) can cast suspicions and influence on your whole life
- “*a little folly*”: the lack of good sense or foresight, the lack of looking at “the what if’s” or possible consequences of ungodly behavior

Verse 2 Is About Inclination

***“A wise man’s heart is at his right hand,
But a fool’s heart is at his left.”***

“The way you are leaning is likely the way you will fall.” In other words what your heart is inclined to do, morally, is pivotal! Where do you get “your inclinations?” (parents, friends, and associates, church?)

- To the Right represents Right Behavior, what is morally worth our time and our effort to do
- To the Left symbolizes rejection or weakness, immoral activity

Jesus uses the same symbols in Matthew 25:33 in His analogy of the scene that occurs when He comes back

***Your Inclination Determines Your Lifestyle And Thus
Your Reputation (Proverbs 3:5-6)***

Verse 3 Is About Demonstration

“Even when a fool walks along the way he lacks wisdom , And he shows everyone that he is a fool.”

- *A person who is not wise will demonstrate it through their character. What’s inside will eventually show up on the outside (*It’s their track record*); their direction in life. **Just Observe!**
*Our Inclination(the way we lean morally) shows up in demonstration (our actions) which produces our reputation**

Verse 4 Is About Leadership and Handling It

“If the spirit of a ruler rises against you, Do not leave your post; For conciliation pacifies great offences.”

- Better to yield to a temperamental supervisor than be contentious with them
- Allow God to work on **them** and **you** and the **situation** you're in (*Romans 8:31*, “.....if God be for us who can be against us)
- *“When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.” Proverbs 16:7*

Observations

- Make sure that you are living right in your struggles
- Remember that you lead by example in your triumphs and in your difficulties
- People watch how Christians handle their own problems

“If you are leading and no one is following, you are just taking a walk.” John Maxwell

You Have To Connect Before You Can Convince!

Verses 5, 6, and 7 Are About Leaders Making Errors With Promotions

“There is an evil I have seen under the sun, As an error proceeding from the ruler: Folly (Immaturity) is set with great dignity

While the rich(people of proven worth) sit in a lowly place. I’ve seen servants on horses, While princess walk on the ground like servants.”

- *Beware of placing incompetent people in competent positions , 1Timothy 3:10*
- *Beware of cronyism and nepotism, even in the church*

The Book Of Ecclesiastes

- Written by Solomon, thought to be the wisest earthly man that ever lived
- His writings encourage us to live our lives as if they were short
- Everyday, by our associations, we are reminded of the brevity of life (people are born and people die)
- Each year, each month, each day may involve a decision that we make that can affect us and our loved ones for a lifetime (habits, inclinations, demonstrations, and reputations effect eternal destinations)

Ecclesiastes 12:13

*“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter;
Fear God and keep His commandments,
For this is man’s all.*

*For God will bring every work into judgment,
including every secret thing. Whether good
or evil.”*

The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38