

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 201 - Keep Thy Foot Through He That Is Higher Than They (Ecclesiastes 5:1-8)

1. When coming into the house of God, should one be casual and careless?

No: *“Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil” (Ecclesiastes 5:1).*

- The house of God was a physical place in the Old Testament (**Acts 7:44-50**).
- The house of God is now the body [church; cf. **Colossians 1:18**] of Christ (**I Timothy 3:15** and **Hebrews 3:6**).
- Keep thy foot (**Psalms 119:59-60; 101**).
- Be more ready to hear than to speak (**James 1:19**).
- Fools do not consider that they do evil (**Proverbs 14:16** and **Romans 10:1-3**).
- The main point here: *“God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him” (Psalms 89:7).*

2. Why shouldn't we be rash with our mouths?

God is listening and He is higher than we: *“Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few” (Ecclesiastes 5:2).*

- Don't be in a hurry to speak (**Proverbs 15:28, Proverbs 16:23, Proverbs 17:27, and James 1:26**).
- God is greater than us (**Isaiah 55:7-9** and **Romans 11:33-36**).
- He hears everything (**Psalms 33:13-15, Proverbs 15:3, and Hebrews 4:13**) and will hold us accountable for what we say (**Matthew 12:36**).

3. Can a busy day have an effect on what you dream?

Yes: *“For a dream cometh through the multitude of business [Strong's # 6045, “employment; travail”]; and a fool's voice is known by multitude of words” (Ecclesiastes 5:3).*

- Just as your dreams reveal the chaos of a day, a fool's speaking reveals he is a fool (**Proverbs 17:27-28** and **Ecclesiastes 10:13-14**).

4. Does God expect us to keep whatever vows [promises] we make to Him?

Yes: *“When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed” (Ecclesiastes 5:4).*

- **Judges 11:29-40, Psalms 50:14-15, Acts 5:1-10, and Revelation 21:8.**

5. What is better than making a promise and not keeping it?

Not making the promise at all: *“Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay” (Ecclesiastes 5:5).*

- The same application can be made to obeying the Gospel... Better to never have than to obey and fall (**II Peter 2:20-22**).

6. Should you speak and then later have to go back and say that what you stated was a mistake?

No: *“Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel [messenger], that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands” (Ecclesiastes 5:6)?*

- **Proverbs 20:25.**
- You do not want God to destroy what you’ve worked for because you spoke without considering what you said until after you said it (cf. **II John 8**).

7. What resides in the multitudes of dreams and words?

Divers vanities: *“For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: but fear thou God” (Ecclesiastes 5:7).*

- **Proverbs 10:19.**
- The solution – fear God (**Philippians 2:12, Hebrews 12:28-29, and I Peter 2:17**).

8. Is God aware of injustices that occur in this world?

Most surely: *“If thou seest the oppression of the poor, and violent perverting of judgment and justice in a province, marvel not at the matter: for he that is higher than the highest regardeth; and there be higher than they” (Ecclesiastes 5:8).*

- Unrighteous judgment is wrong (**Deuteronomy 16:19 and Deuteronomy 24:17**).
- God is aware (**Amos 5:12 and James 5:1-6**).
- Injustices will not go unpunished (**Micah 2:1-3, Malachi 3:5, Luke 18:2-8, and James 2:13**).