

The rare pursuit of inner character
Ecclesiastes 7:16-29

- I. True wisdom is to know your internal character like God does (Ecclesiastes 7:16-22).
 - A. Avoid self-righteous and fake wisdom or you will destroy yourself pretending (16).
 - B. You cannot sin without consequences (17).
 - C. Revere God to become both righteous and wise (18).
 - D. Wisdom, not position, creates influence (19).
 - E. Be humbly aware of your sinful traits (20).
 - F. Ignore those who judge you because you also judge others (21-22).

- II. True godliness is a truly rare pursuit (Ecclesiastes 7:23-29).
 - A. Solomon pursued his limited wisdom to simply discover how foolish sin is (23-25).
 - B. Men who want to please God address their foolish lust for women (26).
 - C. Solomon rarely found godly men or women focused on inner character (27-28).
 - D. God created Adam innocent, but we all sin because of selfish desires that drive us (29).