

"Be Not"

Eccl. 7

Int.

1. Aim: To show that to be what God desires we must not practice certain things.
2. The goal - end desired - of the Bible is to build us into what God wants us to be.
 - a. This requires tearing down of many things
 - b. Man by nature is not what God desires
3. God commands us that we "be not" some things.
4. This lesson will deal with six things that Eccl. 7 says we should "be not"

Discussion

I. BE NOT HASTY IN THY SPIRIT TO BE ANGRY - v.9

- A. Don't get in a hurry to get angry or mad
 1. "Anger resteth in the bosom of fools"
 - a. Ready to fly off at any little thing and get mad
 - b. Gets mad and later regrets Prov. 14:17 "He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly:..."
 - c. Some enjoy being mad and angry at someone or about something
 - d. Prov. 14:29 "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding:..."
 - e. Prov. 16:32 "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty;..."
 - f. Prov. 19:11 "The discretion of a man deferreth his anger;..." = draw out, tarry
 2. Righteous anger is always slow - Jas. 1:19 "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:"
 - a. Maintain reason and truth - It endures no longer than justice requires
 - b. It ceases when there has been reformation

- B. Don't let your children loose control of their temper
1. Eph. 6:4 Fathers are told not to provoke their children to wrath.
 - a. "Feather whipping" will provoke a child
 - b. If there is reason to punish, let him feel it
 - c. Be careful not to under punish
 - d. Also be careful not to over punish for some small thing.
 - (1) Traffic violators are not sentenced same way as a bank robber.
 - (2) Pro. 23:13-14
 - (3) Pro. 22:15
 - (4) Pro. 19:18
 2. Notice your child's temper during early years
 - a. If he throws fits, discipline "him out of that disposition"
 - b. You will bless the child by so doing.
 - c. Fail to do it and you will curse the world.
- C. As a Christian be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry!

II. BE NOT OVER-RIGHTEOUS V. 16

- A. Can a person become over righteous?
1. Can we be too much like God?
 2. 1 Pet. 1:16 tells us "Be ye Holy; for I am holy."
 3. We pray that we will become more like God.
 4. It is a compliment to God for us to desire to be like Him.

B. Can a person become self-righteous

1. This is being too righteous ?
2. A person is too much like God. when he thinks he is God.
3. Then he will sit in judgment on others
4. "Humble and proud of my humility"
5. In Luke 18:9-14 Jesus spake a parable about certain people who were too righteous !
6. Unless our goodness is guarded by humility we are in danger of being filled with pride.

C. 1 Pet. 5:5 "Be clothed with humility"

D. Be not over - righteous = self righteous.

III. BE NOT OTHERWISE V. 16

A. Some people are too smart for their own good

1. Haman plotted to hang Mordecai and wound up being hung in his own noose, Esther 7:10
2. Eli's sons were too smart for their own good - I Sam. 2: 12-25
 - a. They took for themselves first of the animals offered to God
 - b. They sinned openly - Because of their sins they were slain - 1 Sam.4:11

B. Some pretend to have an abundance of wisdom

1. I've met people who thought they knew it all
2. But I've never met anyone who did!
3. We'll never be able to have that kind of wisdom

C. Those who are "over-wise" rob the Bible of its truths

1. The over wise say Christ was only a man
2. The over wise teach that baptism is not essential to salvation
3. The over wise teach they can worship God in a field or any place they desire - Heb. 10:25 4
4. The over wise teach marriage is not for life and you can divorce when you fall out of love
5. The over wise teach there is no Hell. Lk. 12:5
6. Rom. 12:16 "...be not wise in your own conceits."

IV. BE NOT OVERMUCH WICKED - V. 17

A. This does not mean we can indulge lightly in Sin

1. "Abstain from all appearances of evil" 1 Thes. 5:22
2. The bible also teaches, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezk. 18:4

B. God wants us to know that wickedness is the direction of total destruction

1. The prodigal son was headed for total destruction. But he came to his senses.
2. II Tim. 3:13 "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived."
 - a. There is no standing still morally
 - b. If he is going downward, he grows worse and worse every day he follows this course.

C. God's direction has been, is, and always will be away from any measure of sin

V. BE NOT FOOLISH - v. 17

- A. "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." Ps. 14:1
- B. Foolish talking is showing that we are a fool - Eph. 5:4
- C. Foolish man builds on sand - Mt. 7:24-27
- D. "A foolish man despiseth his mother" Prov. 15:20
- E. The foolish are not fully prepared to meet God, Mt. 25:1-13 10 virgins

VI. BE NOT OVER SENSITIVE v 21-22

- A. Do not be sensitive to every word spoken against you
 - 1. Suppose you could hear every word spoken against you by anyone!
 - 2. It would be unbearable
 - 3. Approve self to God and forget what others say of you
- B. Some are over-sensitive to praise given to others - Envious
 - 1. King Saul was sensitive to the praise given to David
 - 2. The good that others do should not cast an evil shadow on you.
 - 3. We should not be envious because of advancement & praise that others receive
- C. Husbands and wives must not be over-sensitive
 - 1. Learn to forgive and forget
 - 2. It's the only way to be happy
 - 3. Be not Bitter - Col. 3:19

CONCLUSION

1. We have discussed 6 "Be not's"
 - a. (1) Be not hasty to be angry
 - b. (2) Be not overrighteous
 - c. (3) Be not overwise
 - d. (4) Be not overwicked
 - e. (5) Be not foolish
 - f. (6) Be not over-sensitive.
 2. These things are not impossible
 3. We can be in a better position to serve God if we will "be not" these things.
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Sources Consulted - Sermon by C. Myron Keith # 52

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