

**January 8, 2011**

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## **Monday**

Psa. 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

We sometimes play the part of the fool. There is no significant difference between one who does not believe in God and one who *will not believe* God. It is much like the modern proverb: "What is the difference between a man who cannot read and the one who does not read?" Well, if God gives you instructions to follow, answers to life's questions, and insight into His will, but you still determine to make up *your own mind*, walk according to *your own reasoning*, and live according to *your own rules*, does it matter that you *say that you believe in God*? The Christian who decides to live by his or her own reason lives life according to the reasoning of a fool.

## **Tuesday**

Eccl. 1:17 And I set my mind to know wisdom and to know madness and folly; I realized that this also is striving after wind.

Human wisdom and the pursuit of knowledge are not unworthy endeavors; they simply cannot provide the answers to the real issues of life, death, and eternity. No matter the capacity of an individual's mind, the mind of man cannot approach the knowledge of God. The temptation to believe in man's unlimited capabilities has always been present. Adam and Eve fell to the temptation when Satan said to them, "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God." (Gen. 3:5) But the only knowledge they gained was the knowledge of sin and its end, death. Don't depend too highly upon your intellect and reason. The wise look to God's word as the only objective standard of truth.

## **Wednesday**

Prov. 16:25 There is a way which seems right to a man,  
But its end is the way of death.

An attorney friend commented: "I always know there's trouble when I ask a client why he did something or the other, and his response is, 'Well, it just seemed like a good idea at the time.' I've learned that that is the worst reason of all." So a man's (or woman's) reasoning can convince him that stupid is smart or that foolish is well reasoned. Don't beguile yourself. Your reasoning powers are no better. Sin, selfishness, and Satan conspire to captivate you. You have no hope of a positive outcome, if you rely upon your reasoning as opposed to God's word. Your intentions are not the issue; good intentions do not negate unscriptural reasoning. ONLY GOD'S WORD is the sure standard of truth and objective guide.

## **Thursday**

Prov. 14:16 A wise man is cautious and turns away from evil,  
But a fool is arrogant and careless.

The Internet is an insanely corrupt source of information. Whether its an email from a friend or a website of essays, the information found is often half-truth or total fiction. Stories are passed from one person to another with little fact checking and a lot of gullibility. The standard of truth is often, "If I like the conclusions or the story tugs at my heart, it must be true." God calls for His people to be wiser than that. Gossip is still gossip in any form. Half-truths can be more dangerous than outright lies. Spreading unchecked rumor as fact is sinful. Believing it is stupid.

## **Friday**

Heb. 4:12 The word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Genuine knowledge and eternal truths are revealed not discerned. Wise men and women understand that our ability to think, consider, and reason is contaminated by limited perspective, present situations, and personal experience. Issues of life and death, of morality and judgment are simply too important to be left to limited reason. God reveals truth in His word. It is unchanging, dependable, and sure! The best reasoning is far worse than the revelation of God's word.