

SERIES: Ecclesiastes  
“The Sinfulness of Sin”  
Ecclesiastes 7:15-29

**A Universal Problem: The Sin of Injustice in a Puzzling World (7:15)**

- The righteous do not always prosper, and sometimes they die early.
- The wicked do not always suffer, and sometimes they live long.

**Warning #1: The Sin of Imbalance: Avoid Unbiblical Extremes of Wickedness and Foolishness (7:16-19)**

- Don't be super-righteous. (16)
  - This is the danger of legalism.
  - Self-righteous people pretend to be more than they really are.
- Don't be super-wicked. (17)
  - This is the danger of moral indifference.
  - Wicked people do not care about what is right.
- We avoid both dangers by fearing God. (18)
  - A balanced person doesn't think too much of themselves.
  - A balanced person doesn't think too little of sin.
- Wisdom does have its place. (19)

**The Universal Truth: There is No One Righteous (7:20)**

- Every person has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
  - There is no one who always does what is right.
  - There is no one who never does wrong.
- Every part of us has been corrupted by sin.

**Warning #2: The Sin of the Tongue: Avoid Being Oversensitive at Others' Words (7:21-22)**

- You may sometimes hear people say bad things about you. (21)
- Don't get too upset, because you have said things that were unkind about others. (22)

**The Universal Search: There Are Some Questions Wisdom Cannot Answer (7:23-25)**

- Wisdom is necessary for living a life pleasing to God.
- However, no amount of wisdom will allow you to fully grasp all God's plans and purposes.
  - More wisdom won't help you comprehend the universe.
  - More wisdom won't help you control the universe.

**Warning #3: The Sin of Sexual Immorality: Avoid the Seductive Woman (7:26)**

- The sinner willingly falls into the trap of sexual temptation.
  - The Bible never commands believers to fight sexual sin.
  - The Bible always commands believers to flee sexual sin.
- The person who seeks to please God will avoid the seductive, empty promises of sexual temptation.
  - This warning is not meant to deny something pleasant.
  - This warning is meant to protect something precious.

**The Universal Conclusion: Sinful People Are Hard to Figure Out (7:27-29)**

- Both men and women are difficult to understand. (27-28)
- Even though God made mankind upright, we have all gone astray. (29)
  - Because of the Fall, everyone in Adam sins.
  - Because of the Cross, everyone in Christ will be saved.

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