

***“IN PRAISE OF FOLLY”***  
**Ecclesiastes 10**  
Pastor Steve Cavallaro

**I. How do you spot a fool? (vv. 1 – 3)**

*“a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor”*

*“but a fool’s heart (inclines him) to the left”*

*“Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense”*

*“he says to everyone that he is a fool”*

**We need Jesus to change the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Proverbs 3:7**

**Proverbs 27:12**

*“It is easier to make a stink than to create sweetness.”*

-Derek Kidner

*“But the fool is characterized instead by impulsive disobedience, self-centered arrogance, and rash disregard for the holiness of God.”*

-Philip Ryken

**II. What does the Preacher say about fools and authority? (vv. 4 – 7, 16 – 17, 20)**

**Living Under Authority:** *“if the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave”*

*“for calmness will lay great offenses to rest.”*

*“Even in your thoughts, do not curse the king”*

*“An error proceeding from the ruler: folly is set in many high places”*

*“slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves”*

*“Woe to you ... when your king is a child”*

**We need Jesus because folly \_\_\_\_\_ our relationship to \_\_\_\_\_.**

Exodus 20:12  
Exodus 22:28  
1 Kings 3:7  
Isaiah 5:11  
Matthew 12:34, 36 – 37  
1 Peter 2:18 – 19

III. What is the problem of the ordinary fool? (vv. 8 – 15, 18 – 19)

*“If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen”.*  
*“multiplies words” → “evil madness”*  
*“through sloth the roof sinks in”*

We need Jesus to \_\_\_\_\_ us from \_\_\_\_\_.

Proverbs 12:23 – 24  
James 3:6

*“A fool falls into his own mouth to his destruction.”* -Benjamin Shaw  
*“... because wisdom guides both planning and execution. It is the fool who rushes into things without planning or without preparation, and at the wrong time.”*  
-Benjamin Shaw  
*“Wise speech requires a heart overflowing with the love of God.”* -Philip Ryken

BIG IDEA: Only Jesus can rescue us from folly & give a heart of wisdom

Digging Deeper:

1. How good are you at recognizing foolishness? In yourself?
2. How do you respond to foolish leaders?
3. How do you respond foolishly to being in charge?
4. What other signs of foolishness he mentions can be true about you?
5. How can Jesus help the foolish?