

Ecclesiastes 4:13-16

April 22, 2026

- I. Wisdom is better than _____ or _____ or _____.

“Have two goals: wisdom—that is, knowing and doing right—and common sense. Don’t let them slip away.”

Proverbs 3:21

(TLB)

“Better a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who no longer knows how to heed a warning.”

Ecclesiastes 4:13

(NIV)

- II. The world often looks at things wrongly – from an _____ perspective.

“But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People

look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

1 Samuel 16:7

(NIV)

- ❖ People tend to look down on the _____.

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)

- ❖ People tend to look down on the _____.

“Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.”

Proverbs 17:5 (NIV)

- III. Age ought to _____ one’s wisdom so when it doesn’t it’s vanity!

“Is not wisdom found among the aged?
Does not long-life bring understanding?
To God belong wisdom and power;
counsel and understanding are his.”

Job 12:12-13 (NIV)

“I thought, ‘Age should speak; advanced
years should teach wisdom.’ But it is the
spirit in a person, the breath of the
Almighty, that gives them
understanding.”

Job 32:7-8 (NIV)

“For everything that was written in the
past was written to teach us, so that
through the endurance taught in the
Scriptures and the encouragement they
provide we might have hope.”

Romans 15:4 (NIV)

IV. Wisdom seeks Godly
_____ and
_____ rather than going
_____.

“Two are better than one, because they
have a good return for their labor: ...
Better a poor but wise youth than an old
but foolish king who no longer knows
how to heed a warning.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9,13

(NIV)

“The way of fools seems right to them,
but the wise listen to advice.”

Proverbs 12:15 (NIV)

“Listen to advice and accept discipline,
and at the end you will be counted
among the wise.”

Proverbs 19:20 (NIV)

“Plans are established by seeking advice;
so if you wage war, obtain guidance.”

Proverbs 20:18 (NIV)

V. Wisdom seeks to do what is
_____ rather than doing
whatever you _____.
“Have two goals: wisdom—that is,
knowing and doing right—and common
sense. Don’t let them slip away,”

Proverbs 3:21 (TLB)

“I instruct you in the way of wisdom and
lead you along straight paths.”

Proverbs 4:11 (NIV)

VI. Wisdom can lead to _____
more than position or possessions.

“The youth may have come from prison to
the kingship, or he may have been born in
poverty within his kingdom.”

Ecclesiastes 4:14

(NIV)

VII. Don’t allow lack of wealth or lack of position
or anything else to hold you back – wisdom
will _____ you.

“He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes, with the princes of his people.”

Psalms 113:7-8

(NIV)

VIII. People are seldom _____ and they seldom act in _____ when they leave God out!

“I saw that all who lived and walked under the sun followed the youth, the king’s successor. There was no end to all the people who were before them. But those who came later were not pleased with the successor. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.”

Ecclesiastes 4:15-16

(NIV)

❖ There is a _____ of _____ among the unwise.