

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

www.crbiblebaptist.com
Independent, Dispensational, Evangelistic, Missionary
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“We’re almost at the end; but then again, we are about to start a beginning.” I guess that could be a riddle and apply to a few things. How could you apply it?

Ecclesiastes 7:8 B_____ is the e__ of a t_____ than the b_____ thereof: *and* the _____ in spirit *is* better than the _____ in spirit.

Anyone awake for philosophy this morning? That text above and many others is what the book of Ecclesiastes is about; it is a wise man’s look on life from an earthly standpoint. WARNING – it is quite pointed!

Pr 29:1 He, that being often reproved hardeneth *his* neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

Looking at this text from a physical standpoint “hardeneth his neck,” you can’t turn your head and it would be uncomfortable. Considering it from a mental and emotional stance, it might lead to ‘anxiety tunnel vision’ because of less peripheral vision, only the problem or corrective statement is focused on.

Considering it from biblical comparison, I’m sure you’ve read the expression “stiffnecked.” It was spoken of the children of Israel when they made a molten calf and worshipped it. Ex. 32

That expression was spoken by the Lord Himself even on a couple other occasions. Moses picked up on it and told the people that’s what they were. He was a caring and sharing pastor of the flock but not a flatterer. If they were out of line he reproved them. He prayed for them and God held back His hand of judgment.

Pr 29:5 A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet.

Moses, *Elihu*, Hezekiah, Stephen and the Apostle Paul wouldn’t use flattering titles. Should a minister today? *¿ Elihu – I know that name...?*

Here again in *2Ch* 30:8 Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers *were, but* yield yourselves unto the LORD, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you.

Summery: How many times do we have to be corrected for the same thing?

When the reproof comes and is not accepted and acted upon the rebellious spirit grows stronger and eventually the axe will fall. The nation of Israel is proof of that. Pharaoh is proof of that. The elders of Succoth learned that.

Judges 8:16 And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of Succoth.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Hag 1:7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

“WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CHRISTIAN GETS *DISCOURAGED*”

Intro. Some rough stages in life: Mood is altered by color, music, diet, exercise

1. Common - Disappointment, (Hope deferred)
2. [downcast or *discouraged*,] disheartened, depressed, loose confidence
3. despondent
4. despair

Think the wrong thing

for some too introspective – Jacob “all these things are AGAINST ME”
Ps. 77:7-9

Say the wrong thing - John BAPTIST Mt. 11:3 “do we look for another?”

Get in the wrong spirit – Exodus 16:

See the wrong thing – Nu. 13 obstacles

How do you see yourself? How do you see yourself in Christ?

Pray the wrong prayer

Moses – Nu. 11:15

Elijah – 1st Kings 19

- **There is a way to recover**

1st Samuel 30:1 – 8; Ephesians 5:19 – 21; 2nd Cor. 4:8 – 18

Dinner today

Message later; **Jesus** is the great “**I Am**”

I believe therefore have I spoken – It will help us focus on Jesus more this week.

Business meeting following the afternoon message

Monday at 4:45 Hiawatha Care Center

Wed. at 5:30 Visitation

Wed. at 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer

My therapist told me:

the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far I've finished two bags of M&Ms and a chocolate cake I feel better already.

