



CONTRASTING FOOLISHNESS WITH WORSHIP

Ecclesiastes 10:8-20

ECCLESIASTES: LIFE UNDER THE SON

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- Do you expect an ordered, predictable calm where your plans are unobstructed?
- Do you assume that people will agree with you and affirm your choices?
- Do you think you will be able to avoid sickness, accident, and injury?
- Do you believe you can plan your way out of stress and avoid situations where you feel overwhelmed?

When people push our buttons, disappoint us, hurt us, betray us, discount us, mistreat us, fail to appreciate us, or when various trials, troubles, heartaches, limitations, and adversities of life hit us, we can respond as if **God doesn't matter**, as if we've just pushed Him from the center of life to the margins where He's out of sight, out of mind.



Romans 8:20-22

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- 2. Corruption (decay; v21):** *phthora*, the idea of destruction, decay, ruin. Your world is in bondage to decay.
- 3. Groaning (v22):** *systemazo*, groan along with; **the pains of childbirth:** *synodino*, to suffer together or be in agony along with.

II. Contrasting Foolishness as a Worker (Eccles. 10:8-10)

The **positive** side of this contrast is **wisdom** in the worker.

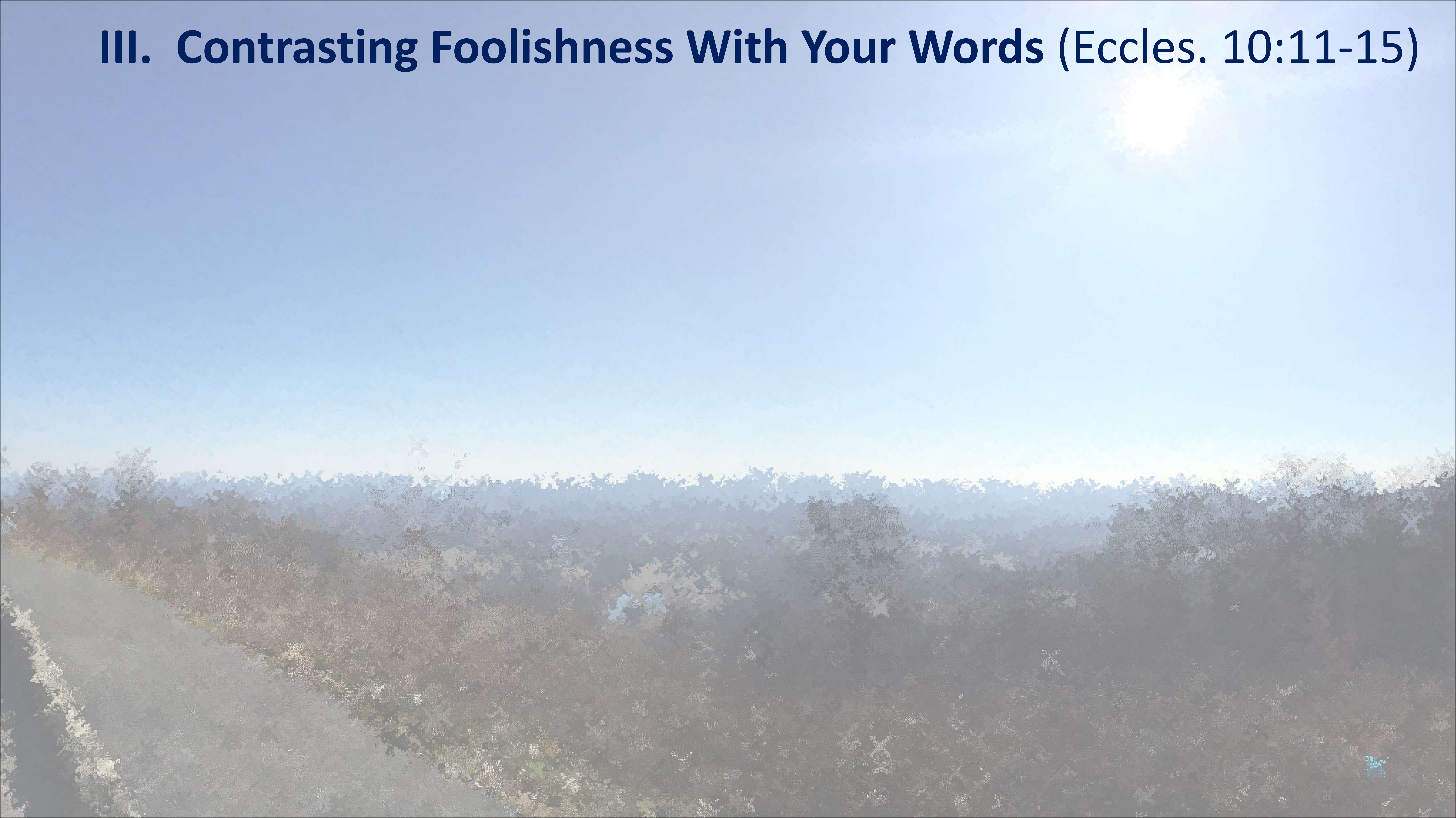


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Wisdom leads us in **sound judgement** and keeps us focused on what is **most valuable** as we deal with difficult situations. It's not about manipulation, being clever, or controlling outcomes.

It's about knowing the truth and applying that truth in context, so that **God is pleased with your response** regardless of the outcome.

III. Contrasting Foolishness With Your Words (Eccles. 10:11-15)



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*The lips of the righteous bring forth what is acceptable,
But the mouth of the wicked what is perverted.*

Proverbs 10:32

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“...his thinking (and therefore his speaking) refuses to begin with God”

Derek Kidner

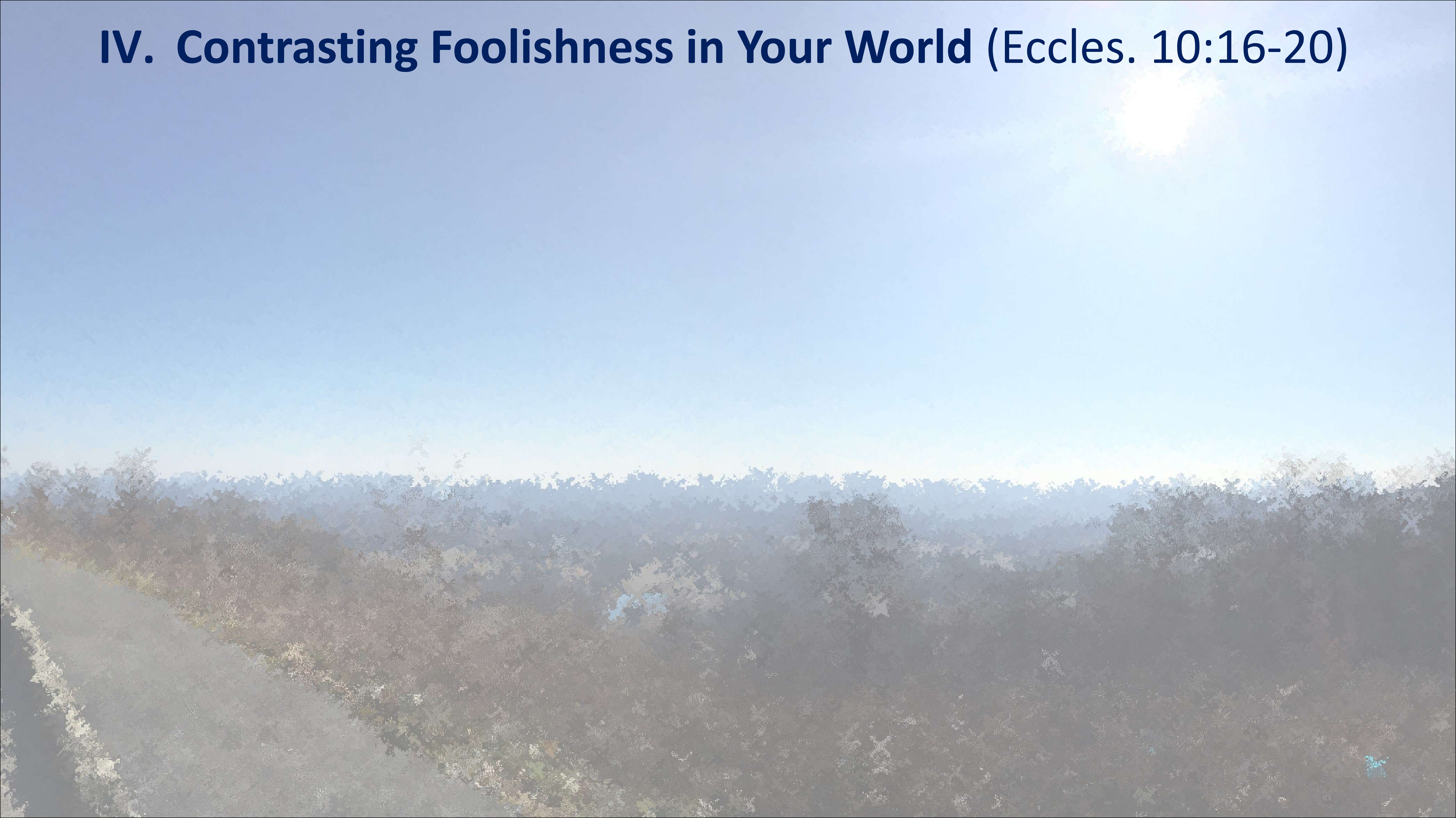


III. Contrasting Foolishness With Your Words (Eccles. 10:11-15)

*The one who guards his mouth preserves his life;
The one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.*

Proverbs 13:3

IV. Contrasting Foolishness in Your World (Eccles. 10:16-20)



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First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

1 Timothy 2:1-2



GRACE CHURCH
WILLIAMSBURG

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