

THE SACRIFICE OF FOOLS

Eccles. 5:1-7

Intro: Many people would call us foolish for gathering together like this each Sunday morning. The the un-believing world, all of this believing the Bible, etc., is utter foolishness. Especially when we come to a series of meetings like this and they see us going to church every night. ~~THEY~~ Many would call us fools.

But that doesn't bother me. I except that from men whose understanding is ~~dark~~ darkened through unbelief. As a matter of fact it's a compliment and shows me ~~that~~ I'm on the right track.

No, it doesn't disturb me for the world to call my worship ~~foolish~~ foolish. But I'll tell you what does disturb me. WHEN GOD CALLS MY WORSHIP FOOLISH.

~~Now~~ A careful study of the Bible reveals that the word FOOL is used very sparingly in the Bible. I believe God calls men fools only seven times in the Scripture. It is a word reserved for special occasions.

Yet here, in our text, three times the word appears. And it clearly teaches that I may make a fool of myself when I worship. In fact, He calls some worship the sacrifice of fools.

Broken vows: "Destroy the work of your hands..." Why do the results not last...experience "revival" but it soon dissipates? Because we fail to keep the vows.

The context seems to say that worshipping is making a vow. When we claim to worship God we are in effect vowing that He is our God, our Lord and our lives will behave accordingly.

Not to live consistently with our worship is to break our VOWS.

I-worship w/out anticipation

II-worship w/out attention - "Draw near to listen"
1 - a desire to know me and JG
2 - a determination to obey me will JG

III-worship w/out action

Broken vows