

WHEN BAD IS BETTER
Ecclesiastes 7:1-14

- I. **The adversity of death is better than amusement (1-4).**
Proverbs 22:1: **A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold.**
- Psalm 90:12: So **teach us to number our days**, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
- II. **The adversity of correction is better than silliness (5-6).**
Psalm 141:5: **Let the righteous strike me; it shall be a kindness. And let him rebuke me; it shall be as excellent oil;** let my head not refuse it. For still my prayer is against the deeds of the wicked.
- Proverbs 13:18: Poverty and shame *will come* to him who disdains correction, **but he who regards a rebuke will be honored.**
- III. **The adversity of exposure is better than corruption (7-9).**
Proverbs 17:23: A wicked man accepts a bribe behind the back to pervert the ways of justice.
- Proverbs 14:29: **He who is slow to wrath has great understanding**, but he who is impulsive exalts folly.
- IV. **The adversity of change is better than constancy (10).**
Hebrews 10:32 But **recall the former days in which**, after you were illuminated, **you endured a great struggle with sufferings.**
- V. **The adversity of wisdom is better than money (11-14).**
Proverbs 3:13-14: Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gains understanding; **for her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, and her gain than fine gold.**