

Ecclesiastes 7:13-14

¹³ Consider the work of God;

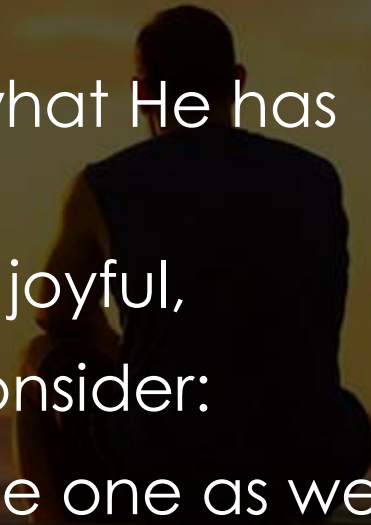
For who can make straight what He has made crooked?

¹⁴ In the day of prosperity be joyful,

But in the day of adversity consider:

Surely God has appointed the one as well as the other,

So that man can find out nothing that will come after him.



A person is sitting on a beach, looking out at the ocean during sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, and the water is dark. The person is in silhouette, wearing a dark tank top and shorts. The overall mood is contemplative and peaceful.

Consider the Work of God

ECCLESIASTES 7:13-14

Ecclesiastes 7:13-14

▶ **The Context of Ecclesiastes**

- ▶ How to make the most of life on earth (1:3; 2:3)
- ▶ The vanity of temporal pursuits in this life (1:14; 2:11)
- ▶ Man's all – The meaning of life – “Fear God and keep His commandments” (12:13)

Ecclesiastes 7:13-14

▶ **The Immediate Text**

- ▶ Consider God's Work and Purpose
- ▶ We will live a fuller and more blessed life if we will see and appreciate the purpose of God in the day of adversity as well as the day of prosperity
- ▶ God gives us the broad experience of prosperity and adversity to cause us to "consider" some things about this life


Philippians 4:11-13

¹³ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:



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A silhouette of a person sitting on a beach, looking out at the ocean during sunset or sunrise. The person is facing away from the camera, and the background is a warm, golden glow from the low sun. The person appears to be sitting on the sand, with their legs tucked under them. The ocean is visible in the distance, and the sky is a mix of orange and yellow.

Philippians 4:11-13

¹³ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:

¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

Philippians 4:11-13

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¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

Philippians 4:11-13

¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.



Consider and Learn In the Day of Adversity

- ▶ **Consider God's end of the stick**
(Ecc.7:13)
 - ▶ "Who can make straight what He has made crooked?"
 - ▶ We can't control our lives to the point of eliminating adversity
 - ▶ Don't try to whittle on God's end of the stick!

Consider and Learn In the Day of Adversity

- ▶ **Consider your ways** (Hag.1:5, 7)
 - ▶ Consider the ravens (Lk.12:24, 27)
 - ▶ Consider that money can't buy things that last (Matt.6:19; 16:26)
 - ▶ Consider the value of simple things
 - ▶ Consider that godliness with contentment is great gain (1Tim.6:6-10)
 - ▶ Consider the day of prosperity

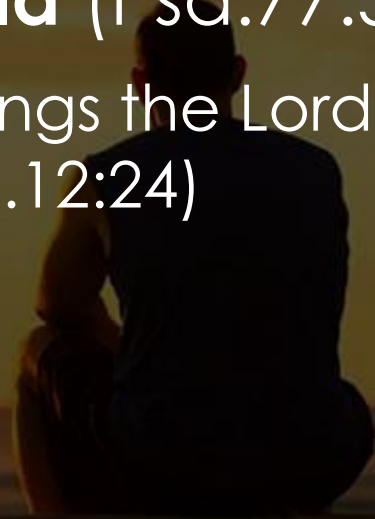
Consider and Learn In the Day of Adversity

- ▶ **Consider one another** (Heb.10:25)
 - ▶ Consider the needs of your brethren
 - ▶ Consider the blessing of being able to assemble with brethren



Consider and Learn In the Day of Adversity

- ▶ **Consider the days of old (Psa.77:5)**
 - ▶ Consider what great things the Lord has done for you (1Sam.12:24)



Consider and Learn In the Day of Adversity

- ▶ **Consider that the longsuffering of the Lord is salvation!** (2Pet.3:15)
 - ▶ You do not know what will come after
 - ▶ The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night (v.10)
 - ▶ There is a day coming – a day of terrible adversity that will never end...