

ECCLESIASTES

FINDING MEANING IN THIS LIFE

Message Title: **Think Small**

Ecclesiastes 9:1-12 NKJV | Sunday AM, January 2nd, 2022

Pastor Jack Lamb

13 This wisdom I have also seen under the sun, and it *seemed* great to me: **14** *There was* a little city with few men in it; and a great king came against it, besieged it, and built great snares around it. **15** Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that same poor man. **16** Then I said: “Wisdom *is* better than strength. Nevertheless the poor man’s wisdom *is* despised, And his words are not heard. **17** Words of the wise, *spoken* quietly, *should be* heard Rather than the shout of a ruler of fools. **18** Wisdom *is* better than weapons of war; But one sinner destroys much good.” **10** Dead flies putrefy the perfumer’s ointment, And cause it to give off a foul odor; So *does* a little folly to one respected for wisdom *and* honor. **2** A wise man’s heart *is* at his right hand, But a fool’s heart at his left. **3** Even when a fool walks along the way, He lacks wisdom, And he shows everyone *that he is* a fool. **4** If the spirit of the ruler rises against you, Do not leave your post; For conciliation pacifies great offenses. **5** There is an evil I have seen under the sun, As an error proceeding from the ruler: **6** Folly is set in ⁴great dignity, While the rich sit in a lowly place. **7** I have seen servants ⁵on horses, While princes walk on the ground like servants. **8** He who digs a pit will fall into it, And

whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a serpent. **9** He who quarries stones may be hurt by them, *And* he who splits wood may be endangered by it. **10** If the ax is dull, *And* one does not sharpen the edge, Then he must use more strength; But wisdom brings success. **11** A serpent may bite when *it is* not charmed; The babbler is no different. **12** The words of a wise man's mouth *are* gracious, But the lips of a fool shall swallow him up; **13** The words of his mouth begin with foolishness, *And* the end of his talk *is* raving madness. **14** A fool also multiplies words. No man knows what is to be; Who can tell him what will be after him? **15** The labor of fools wearies them, For they do not even know how to go to the city! **16** Woe to you, O land, when your king *is* a child, *And* your princes feast in the morning! **17** Blessed *are* you, O land, when your king *is* the son of nobles, *And* your princes feast at the proper time— For strength and not for drunkenness! **18** Because of laziness the building decays, *And* through idleness of hands the house leaks. **19** A feast is made for laughter, *And* wine makes merry; But money answers everything. **20** Do not curse the king, even in your thought; Do not curse the rich, even in your bedroom; For a bird of the air may carry your voice, *And* a bird in flight may tell the matter.

Introduction
