

Topic: **Studies in Ecclesiastes: Excel in Patience**

Scripture text: Eccl. 7:7-14

28 August 2016: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

1. There are 2 words translated as "Patience" in the Bible - one has to do with endurance of difficult circumstances and the other has to do with being longsuffering with difficult people. As Christians, we will face both of such situations and must remain steadfast when the test comes.
2. In v.7, the Bible says oppression maketh a wise man mad. The oppression can come in the form of physical persecutions or fraud. Even a wise man can lose his rational mind to respond wrongly under oppression. We must also be careful of soft tactics like gifts or bribery that can destroy our hearts.
3. We must remember the Word of God that tells us better is the end of a thing than the beginning (v.8). We can be tempted to complain or give up when the trial is long. God's grace is able to help us through and when the trial is over, we can see God's purpose for His glory. Let us not be arrogant to do things our way during trial.
4. It is also not wise to say that the former days are better than now (v.10). We must have the eyes of faith to trust God and walk in heavenly wisdom in life. This wisdom is a defence for us.
5. To excel in patience, we need to know the Bible to have wisdom from above to face every trial of life.