

You might be a fool if...

Don't be a fool; trust in God and be wise.

You might be a fool if...

Three Fools (17:7-9)

Marks of a Fool (17:10-15)

More Marks of a Fool (17:16-20)

Consequences of being Foolish (17:17-25)

Don't be the Fool (17:26-28)

You might be a fool if...

Proverbs 17:7

- ⁷ Fine speech is not becoming to a fool; still less is false speech to a prince.
- ⁸ A bribe is like a magic stone in the eyes of the one who gives it;

wherever he turns he prospers.

⁹ Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends.

- ¹⁰ A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool.
- ¹¹ An evil man seeks only rebellion, and a cruel messenger will be sent against him.

- ¹² Let a man meet a she-bear robbed of her cubs rather than a fool in his folly.
- 13 If anyone returns evil for good, evil will not depart from his house.
- ¹⁴ The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so quit before the quarrel breaks out.
- ¹⁵ He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the LORD.

¹⁶ Why should a fool have money in his hand to buy wisdom

when he has no sense?

- ¹⁷ A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.
- One who lacks sense gives a pledge and puts up security in the presence of his neighbor.
- ¹⁹ Whoever loves transgression loves strife; he who makes his door high seeks destruction.
- ²⁰ A man of crooked heart does not discover good, and one with a dishonest tongue falls into calamity.

- ²¹ He who sires a fool gets himself sorrow, and the father of a fool has no joy.
- ²² A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.
- ²³ The wicked accepts a bribe in secret to pervert the ways of justice.
- ²⁴ The discerning sets his face toward wisdom, but the eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth.
- ²⁵ A foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him.

- ²⁶ To impose a fine on a righteous man is not good, nor to strike the noble for their uprightness.
- ²⁷ Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.
- ²⁸ Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.

During this time of reflection:

In what ways am I being foolish?