

## What God Thinks Of Foolish People

'The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." Fools are corrupt. They have done abominable works and there is none who have done any good' (Psalm 14:1; 53:1).

Mankind was created to be the beautiful visual image of God and His holy character likeness, to reveal the glory and majesty of God, and to represent everything God the Father is. We are still His visual image, His form and shape but we do not have the pure, holy character likeness of God. The Bible reveals what form and shape God is. 'Jesus, Who existing in the form of God did not consider equality with God a thing to be proud of but He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men and being in human form He humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death of the cross' (Philippians 2:5 to 8). When sin entered the world, everything became distorted and corrupted then the Lord had to pull a spiritual veil over the eyes of mankind to block divine knowledge and wisdom. 'God will destroy ... the covering that covers all peoples and the veil that is spread over all nations' (Isaiah 25:7). The spiritual veil caused unbelieving people to become foolish and sometimes quite stupid and can only be removed if we give our lives to Jesus then the way we live our lives should be a mirrored reflection of God. 'Whenever someone turns to the Lord the veil is taken away. The Lord is the Holy Spirit and where the Holy Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (freedom from shame and sin). We all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory from the Lord, the Holy Spirit' (2 Corinthians 3:16 to 18). Once we are born-again, grow in God and walk with His wisdom, common sense and knowledge, we are slowly transformed into our originally intended pure image and likeness of God.

That does not apply to people who reject the salvation message. 'If our Gospel is veiled, it is veiled in those who perish (who are going to a lost eternity) in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so the light of the Gospel of the glory of Jesus, Who is the image of God, should not dawn on them' (2 Corinthians 4:3 & 4). Because of sin, the glory of God has fallen to such a degree, all mankind falls short of the glory and majesty of God (Romans 3:23). The image and glory of God has been exceedingly corrupted by sin but mankind is still the pinnacle of God's overall creation. Jesus was God in the form of Man (Philippians 2:5 to 8) so by seeing Jesus, we have seen the image of God (John 14:9), 'Who delivered us out of the power of darkness and translated us into the Kingdom of the Son of His love in Whom we have our redemption and the forgiveness of our sins. He is the image of the invisible God' (Colossians 1:13 to 15). All of mankind has a small measure of His glory. Non-believers sometimes do nice things for others – even to the point of risking their own lives to rescue people, but His glory in the form of holiness for which we were created, has been greatly diminished by the effects of sin. Holiness can only come through repentance and seeking God daily. When we walk with God, we inherit His divine wisdom, knowledge and His glory but foolish people will only know shame (Proverbs 2:6; 3:35). Some religious people claim to know God but all they have is foolish, empty religion. 'Knowing God, they did not glorify Him as God neither gave thanks, but became vain in their reasoning and their senseless heart was darkened. Claiming to be wise they became fools' (Romans 1:21 & 22). Without God, we are void of wisdom and common sense and are foolish. The Bible says a lot about fools who are hopefully, not professing Jesus to be their Saviour because their foolishness would make a mockery of God's wisdom. Unsaved people mock the salvation message. 'Fools mock at making atonement for sin' (Proverbs 14:9).

What does God really think of fools? God takes no pleasure in fools (Ecclesiastes 5:4). He laughs at foolish people and holds them in derision (Psalm 2:4). Foolish people mock God. 'Arise, God! Plead Your own cause. Remember how the foolish mock You all day' (Psalm 74:22). The Lord tells fools to wake themselves up and listen to Him (Proverbs 8:5 to 9). Fools are regarded as being senseless and simpleminded, bringing their own destruction. 'How great are Your works Lord! Your thoughts are very deep. A senseless man does not comprehend neither does a fool understand' (Psalm 92:5 & 6). 'Consider this you senseless among the people. You fools, when will you be wise?' (Psalm 94:8). 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge but the foolish despise wisdom and instruction ... How long, you simple ones, will you love foolishness? How long will mockers delight themselves in mockery and how long will fools hate knowledge? ... The backsliding of the simple and the careless ease of fools will destroy them' (Proverbs 1:7, 22, 32).

Some women are fools. 'The foolish woman is coarse, undisciplined, she does not think and she knows nothing ... Every wise woman builds up her house but the foolish woman tears down her home (destroys her family) with her own hands' (Proverbs 9:13; 14:1). Fools destroy their own lives and the lives of their families (households). 'They who trouble their own household will inherit the wind. The foolish will be servant to the wise of heart' (Proverbs 11:29).

Fools bring heartache to their parents. 'A foolish son brings grief to his mother ... A foolish man despises his mother ... He who becomes the father of a fool, grieves. The father of a fool has no joy in his offspring ... A foolish son brings grief to his father and sorrow to his mother who bore him ... A foolish son is the calamity of his father' (Proverbs 10:1; 15:20; 17:21 & 25; 19:13).

Fools talk too much. 'A fool's speech comes with a multitude of words' (Ecclesiastes 5:3). 'A chattering fool will fall ... The mouth of the foolish is near ruin ... The hearts of fools speak foolishness ... A fool exposes his folly ... The fool's talk brings a rod to his own back ... The mouth of fools gush out foolishness ... The mouths of fools feed on nonsense ... Even a fool is considered wise when he keeps silent. When he shuts his mouth he is thought to be discerning ... Better is the poor man who walks in his integrity than he who is perverse in his speech and is a fool' (Proverbs 10:8, 10 & 14; 12:23; 13:16; 14:3; 15:2 & 14; 17:28; 19:1).

Fools slander and gossip. 'He who utters slander is a fool ... One who brings gossip betrays a confidence ... The words of a gossip are like dainty morsels going down into a person's soul ... He who goes about as a tale-bearer reveals secrets, therefore do not keep company with him who opens wide his mouth' (Proverbs 10:18; 11:13; 18:8; 20:19). 'They are idle, going from house to house, gossipers and busybodies saying things they ought not' (1 Timothy 5:13).

Fools are their own worst enemy. 'The fool folds his hands together and ruins his own life' (Ecclesiastes 4:5). 'A senseless man does not comprehend neither does a fool understand, though the wicked spring up as grass and all evildoers flourish, they will be destroyed forever ... Fools are afflicted because of their disobedience and because of their iniquities' (Psalm 92:6 & 7; 107:17). 'Fools die for lack of knowledge and understanding ... The wise spread knowledge but that is not so with the heart of fools ... The punishment of fools is their own stupidity ... The eyes of fools wander ... The foolishness of man subverts his way then his heart rages against God ... Delicate living is inappropriate for a fool ... Penalties are prepared for scoffers and beatings are for the backs of fools ... Like a dog that returns to his vomit, so is a fool who repeats his folly ... You could grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with grain, yet his foolishness will not be removed from him' (Proverbs 10:21; 15:7; 16:22; 17:24; 19:3, 10 & 29; 26:11; 27:22).

Fools justify their sin and love evil. 'It is a fool's pleasure to do wickedness ... The way of a fool is right in his own eyes ... Fools detest turning from evil ... One who plots to do evil will be called a schemer and the schemes of the foolish are sin' (Proverbs 10:23; 12:15; 13:19; 24:8 & 9). 'The fool walks in darkness ... Wickedness is stupidity and foolishness is madness' (Ecclesiastes 2:14; 7:25). 'The fool speaks nonsense. His heart works iniquity to practice profanity and he utters errors against the Lord' (Isaiah 32:6). 'The words that proceed out of the man, defile the man. Out of the hearts of men proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, sexual sins, murders, thefts, covetings, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, idolatry, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride and foolishness' (Mark 7:20 to 22).

Fools are bad-tempered, irritable, quarrelsome and argumentative. 'Do not be hasty in your spirit to be angry, for anger rests in the heart of fools' (Ecclesiastes 7:9). 'A fool shows his irritability the same day ... There is one who speaks irrationally like the piercing of a sword ... The fool is hot-headed and reckless. He who is quick-tempered will commit stupid acts ... He who has a quick temper displays foolishness ... A fool's mouth brings strife and invites beatings. A fool's mouth is his destruction and his words are a snare to his soul ... Every fool is quarrelsome ... Do not befriend a hot-tempered man and do not associate with one who harbours anger, lest you learn his ways and ensnare your soul ... Do not answer a fool according to his stupidity lest you behave like him and lower yourself to his level. If you answer a fool according to his stupidity he will be wise in his own eyes ... A stone is heavy and sand is a burden but a fool's provocation is heavier than both ... If a wise man goes to court with a foolish man, the fool rages or scoffs and there is no peace ... A fool vents all of his anger but a wise man exercises self-control' (Proverbs 12:16 & 18; 14:16, 17 & 29; 18:6 & 7; 20:3; 22:24 & 25; 26:4 & 5; 27:3; 29:9 & 11).

Fools choose foolish companions. 'A companion of fools suffers harm ... Stay away from a foolish man for you will not find any knowledge coming from his mouth ... Honour is not fitting for a fool ... As one who ties the stone in a slingshot, so are those who give honour to a fool' (Proverbs 13:20; 14:7; 26:1 & 8). 'Do not be deceived! Evil companionships corrupt good morals' (1 Corinthians 15:33).

Fools are deceptive and make foolish jokes. 'The folly of fools is deceit ... Like a madman who shoots flaming wood, arrows and death, so is the man who deceives his neighbour and says, "I am only joking"' (Proverbs 14:8; 26:18 & 19).

Fools are unwise with their money. 'The fool and the senseless perish and leave their wealth to others' (Psalm 49:10). 'The crown of the wise is their wealth but the folly of fools is stupidity and foolishness ... Why is there money in the hand of a fool to buy wisdom, considering he has no desire for understanding? ... A foolish man wastes his treasure' (Proverbs 14:24; 17:16; 21:20).

Fools reject wisdom, instruction and are narcissistic. 'Whoever hates reproof is stupid ... A fool despises his Father's correction ... A fool has no delight in wisdom and understanding but desires to speak only his own opinion ... You cannot speak into the ears of a fool for he will despise the wisdom of your words ... Wisdom is too high for a fool ... One who trusts in himself is a fool' (Proverbs 12:1; 15:5; 18:2; 23:9; 24:7; 28:26).

Fools are proud, arrogant, haughty and stubborn. 'Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall ... Arrogant speech reveals the fool ... A rebuke enters deeper into the heart of a wise man than a hundred lashes into a fool ... The proud and haughty man, Scoffer is his name, works in the arrogance of pride ... A whip is for the horse, a bridle is for the donkey and a rod of correction is for the back of fools!' (Proverbs 16:18; 17:7 & 10; 21:24; 26:3).

Fools drink alcohol. 'Who has woe? Who has misery? Who has regrets? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has lack? Who has complaints? Who has wounds and bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes? Those who spend their time at the wine. Those who seek out mixed drinks. Do not look at the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the glass, when it goes down smoothly. In the end it bites like a snake and poisons like a viper. Your eyes will see strange things. Your mind will imagine confusing things. You will say strange things. Yes, you will be as he who lies down in the midst of the sea or as he who lies on top of the rigging. The fool will say, "They hit me and I was not hurt! They beat me and I do not feel it! When will I wake up? I can do it again. I can find another drink" ... A parable in the mouth of a fool is like a thornbush in the hand of a drunkard' (Proverbs 23:29 to 35; 26:9). 'Do not get drunk which is debauchery but be filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing out loud and singing praises in your heart to the Lord' (Ephesians 5:18 & 19).

Fools are bad leaders, are unreliable and make bad employees. 'The leaders are utterly foolish. The counsel of the wisest counsellors are stupid ... The leaders have become fools' (Isaiah 19:11 & 13). 'One who sends a message by the hand of a fool is like cutting off his own feet and drinking violence. Like the legs of the lame that hang loose so is a parable or message in the mouth of fools ... Like an archer who wounds all around him so is he who hires a fool' (Proverbs 26:6, 7 & 10).

There is hope for some fools. 'Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has understanding and is made known in the soul of fools ... Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him ... Do you see a man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him' (Proverbs 14:33; 26:12; 29:20).

Everyone who hears the words of Jesus but does not obey them to secure their own salvation, is foolish. 'Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not obey them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand' (Matthew 7:26).

According to Jesus, people who refuse to be baptised in the Holy Spirit or who allow their relationship with the Lord to burn out are foolish. They are not ready to be ushered into the Kingdom of God and they will miss out when the door of opportunity is shut then Jesus will deny knowing them. Oil is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. 'The Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten young women (believers) who took their lamps and went out to meet the Bridegroom (Jesus). Five of them were foolish and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the Bridegroom delayed they all slept. At midnight there was a shout, "Behold! The Bridegroom is coming! Come out to meet Him!" All those young women arose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil for our lamps are going out."

The wise answered, "What if there is not enough for us and you? You go out to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves."

While they went away to buy oil, the Bridegroom came and those who were ready (who had a continuing relationship with the Oil of the Holy Spirit) went in with Him to the marriage feast and the door was shut. Afterward the other young women also came saying, "Lord, Lord, open to us."

Jesus answered, "Most certainly I tell you, I do not know you."

Watch therefore, for you do not know the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming for you' (Matthew 25:1 to 13). 'Do not be foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is' (Ephesians 5:17).

Jesus inferred, people who are religious but do not have a close relationship with Him are all foolish. 'You foolish ones, God Who made the outside made the inside also' (Luke 11:38 to 52).

Jesus told a parable inferring covetousness, avarice and greed are foolishness. We need to be rich in our relationship with God. 'God said to him, "You foolish man. Tonight your soul is required of you. The things you have hoarded, whose will they be?" So is he who hoards treasures for himself and is not rich toward God' (Luke 12:15 to 21).

Jesus said people who do not believe the Old Testament are foolish. 'Jesus said to them, "Foolish men so slow of heart to believe in all the words the prophets have spoken!" (Luke 24:25).

The Lord wants us to ask for His wisdom because any 'wisdom' we have is foolishness. 'The foolishness of God is wiser than men' (1 Corinthians 1:25). 'If any of you lacks wisdom, ask of God Who gives to all liberally and without reproach and wisdom will be given to them' (James 1:5).

When we accept the power of the cross and the abundance of the sacrificial blood of Jesus, as we grow in Him we will become wiser and we will be able to discern the spiritual things of God. 'The Word (salvation message) of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing (going to a lost eternity) but to us who are saved it is the power of God ... We preach Jesus was crucified, which is a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles ... The natural mind cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God. Spiritual things are foolishness to the unsaved and they cannot comprehend because Spiritual things are Spiritually discerned' (1 Corinthians 1:18 & 23; 2:14). As stated earlier, unsaved people mock the salvation message. 'Fools mock at making atonement for sin' (Proverbs 14:9), but we must continue to share the Gospel of Power. 'This is the will of God. By doing well, you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men' (1 Peter 2:15). Jesus said He wants us to be wise and gentle. "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves so be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves' (Matthew 10:16).

Amen and God bless you.

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