Ecclesiastes 7 (ESV)

[1] A good name is better than precious ointment, and the
day of death than the day of birth.

[2] It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to
the house of feasting, for this is the end of all mankind,
and the living will lay it to heart.

[3] Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of face
the heart is made glad.

[4] The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but
the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

[5] It is better for a man to hear the rebuke of the wise
than to hear the song of fools.

[6] For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the
laughter of the fools; this also is vanity.

[7] Surely oppression drives the wise into madness, and a
bribe corrupts the heart.

[8] Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the
patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Ecclesiastes 7 (ESV)

9 Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger
lodges in the heart of fools.

10 Say not, “Why were the former days better than
these?” For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.

11 Wisdom is good with an inheritance, an advantage to
those who see the sun.

12 For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of
money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom
preserves the life of him who has it.

13 Consider the work of God: who can make straight
what he has made crooked?

14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of
adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the
other, so that man may not find out anything that will be
after him.

15 In my vain life I have seen everything. There is a
righteous man who perishes in his righteousness, and
there is a wicked man who prolongs his life in his
evildoing. 16 Be not overly righteous, and do not make

yourself too wise. Why should you destroy yourself?

17 Be not overly wicked, neither be a fool. Why should
you die before your time? 18 It is good that you should
take hold of this, and from that withhold not your hand,
for the one who fears God shall come out from both of
them.

19 Wisdom gives strength to the wise man more than ten
rulers who are in a city.

20 Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does
good and never sins.

21 Do not take to heart all the things that people say, lest
you hear your servant cursing you. 22 Your heart knows
that many times you yourself have cursed others.

23 All this I have tested by wisdom. I said, “I will be wise,”
but it was far from me. 24 That which has been is far off,
and deep, very deep; who can find it out?

25 I turned my heart to know and to search out and to
seek wisdom and the scheme of things, and to know the
wickedness of folly and the foolishness that is
madness. 26 And I find something more bitter than

death: the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and
whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God escapes
her, but the sinner is taken by her. [27] Behold, this is what
I found, says the Preacher, while adding one thing to
another to find the scheme of things— [28] which my soul
has sought repeatedly, but I have not found. One man
among a thousand I found, but a woman among all
these I have not found. [29] See, this alone I found, that
God made man upright, but they have sought out many
schemes.