

Sorrow & A Sad Countenance (Eccl. 7:3-4)

Who prefers feelings of pain over feelings of joy? No one likes the sound of sorrow more than the sound of laughter, but Solomon said sadness is better for us than laughter.

Solomon understood sorrow. His parents first met to commit adultery causing family scandal, sorrow, and death (2 Sam. 11-12). His half-brothers were guilty of rape and treason. He, like us, sometimes wondered “Why. . .?”

Batesville regularly has reasons to sorrow, including the recent death and injuries of several tenth-grade students. Sorrows are not new to the world, but when they are new to us, they can feel unbearable. Solomon’s prescription in such days is, *In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider* (Eccl. 7:14). Both kinds of days will come (Eccl. 3:1-8), so learn how to bear and benefit from them.

Read the book of Ecclesiastes to learn how to handle joy and sorrow. Read chapter 11:9-10 during your youth, and chapter 12:13-14 is for all ages, teaching the purpose of life.

Visit our website for articles and audio about death, the resurrection, and related topics. Often, when we are sad we gain the most out of studying and reflecting on these topics.