

Ecclesiastes 5:1

Guard your steps as you go to the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools; for they do not know they are doing evil.

All things being equal, God has a _____ for people coming to listen and be changed over people coming to offer sacrifices.

It is an _____ to offer sacrifices rather than listen.

Ecclesiastes 5:2

Do not be hasty in word or impulsive in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; therefore let your words be few.

Being hasty in word or impulsive in thought are signs people don't think God is _____ enough for him to come prepared.

Using many words with God is a sign you didn't _____, or if you _____, you did it on the fly, you _____ as you went along, and therefore you needed many words to talk your way through.

Ecclesiastes 5:4

When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it; for He takes no delight in fools. Pay what you vow!

The person who makes a vow to God, and is late in paying the vow, is the _____.

Vows are optional, but if you make a vow to God, do what you promised _____.

Ecclesiastes 5:6

Do not let your speech cause you to sin and do not say in the presence of the messenger of God that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry on account of your voice and destroy the work of your hands?

God is _____ when he answers people's prayers, then afterwards they forget about the vow they made to him.

Making a vow to God, but not paying it says to _____ he is not important to you, and also says to _____ God is not important to you.

No matter if we take our vows seriously or we don't take our vows seriously, God _____ our vows and he takes them seriously.

Fearing God begins when you discover for yourself _____.

DIGGING DEEPER

(for group study and conversation, and for personal reflection)

- What are some of the ways we can do to make sure we are not guilty of being “hasty in word or impulsive in thought” when we approach God?
- Please share an example how we might “offer sacrifices rather than listen” in our lives today.
- Why must we use few words when we approach God?
- Please share how you might have in the past promised you would do something for God, but did not follow through. What was your reason or reasons?
- What is the Big Idea in today’s passage?

