A FOOL IS ALWAYS RIGHT
Proverbs 12:15

INTRODUCTION:
1. Proverbs 12:15 states, “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.”
   A. People are strange in their beliefs.
      1. Especially, when it comes to those who see themselves as being wise when, in reality, they fools.
2. Benjamin Franklin stated, “The learned fool writes his nonsense in better language than the unlearned, but still ’tis nonsense.”
3. The word “fool” and its plural “fools” are found in 113 verses of the KJV of the Bible.
   A. Within the New Testament we find eight different words translated either as “fool,” “foolish,” “foolishly” or “foolishness.”
4. No doubt we have all confronted someone like this in our lives at one time or the other.
   A. Paul dealt with those at Corinth who saw themselves as “wise,” when in reality they were foolish – 1 Corinthians 1:20-25.
5. In our lesson at this hour we want to discuss the idea of “A Fool Is Always Right,” adding to that, “In His Own Mind.”
6. Before we do that, though, let us clear up something.
   A. What we are to discuss is not a contradiction of Jesus’ words in Matthew 5:22.
      1. There Jesus speaks of the person who implies that another is morally worthless, a scoundrel, or a reprobate.
      2. He does not speak of one referring to another as a “fool” due to their foolish actions.
         A. If so, He would stand self-condemned due to His parable of the “rich fool” as seen in Luke 12:16-21.
7. In considering the “fool” we are not left unable to determine who this might be in so far as the Word of God is concerned.
   A. God, knowing man inside and out, has the ability to identify those who would be “fools” – Hebrews 4:12, 13.
   B. So long as we look to His Word to determine who this might be, we will not make an incorrect determination.

BODY:
1. HE WHO SAYS THERE IS NO GOD IS A FOOL ALTHOUGH HE THINKS HE IS RIGHT
   A. Psalms 14:1 – “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.”
      1. Note that verses 1-3 describe this person as vile and corrupt.
B. But why does God say that this person is foolish?
   1. Because he claims there is no God.
C. Why does he make such a claim?
   2. But, rather, because that is what he wants to believe, believing he is right.
      A. Those who want to live contrary to God wish that there is no such Being.
      B. Sinners wish there is no God.
         1. No one to whom they must ultimately answer for their deeds.

2. HE WHO TRUSTS IN HIS OWN HEART IS A FOOL, ALTHOUGH HE THINKS HE IS RIGHT
   A. This person depends upon his own judgment to the exclusion of God’s council – Proverbs 12:15.
   B. Why is this person a fool?
      1. Because man’s heart is subject to error – Proverbs 16:25; Jeremiah 10:23; Romans 1:22.
      2. Because he refuses to glorify God – Romans 1:21.
         A. It is folly to believe in God and not honor Him as such.
      3. Because the heart is deceitful – it cannot be trusted – Jeremiah 17:9; Proverbs 12:15.
      4. Because he sets his judgment above God’s.
         A. When we trust in our feelings, instead of God and His word, we are extremely foolish.

3. THE COVETOUS MAN IS A FOOL, ALTHOUGH HE THINKS HE IS RIGHT
   B. Why is this person seen to be a fool?
      1. He was blind to the source of wealth – 1 Corinthians 10:26; 1 Timothy 6:17.
         B. It was God, and not man, who gave nature the power to produce and man the ability to serve as stewards – 1 Peter 4:10.
      2. The one under consideration in Luke 12 supposed riches, when hoarded, would be a comfort.
         A. Instead, they were a burden.
         A. He should have had the attitude as seen in James 4:13, 14.

4. HE WHO HEARS BUT DOES NOT OBEY IS A FOOL, ALTHOUGH HE THINKS HE IS RIGHT
   A. Matthew 7:26, 27
   B. Why is this one a fool?
      2. He hears the warning calls but fails to heed them.
         A. Clearly indicating a lack of wisdom herein.

5. HE WHO DOES NOT PREPARE HIMSELF FOR JUDGMENT IS A FOOL, ALTHOUGH HE THINKS HE IS RIGHT
   A. Matthew 25:1-13
B. Why were five of the ten virgins described as being foolish?
   1. Because they lived for the present life.
      A. They gave no consideration of what lay ahead.
   2. They forgot the admonition to be ready.
   3. They tried to find refuge in forms, lamps, vessels, and names.
      A. They neglected the oil needed for their lamps.
C. In consideration of this parable, how might we be described as “fools?”
   1. By forgetting the judgment to come – 2 Corinthians 5:10.
   3. By neglecting the inner life – Romans 12:1, 2.
   4. By believing that all that is necessary is being a member of the church while doing nothing else to prepare – Ephesians 4:15.