



7:00 PM PVBC

# THE UNPREDICTABLE ELECTION

November 4<sup>th</sup> 2020 / 17 Heshvan 5781

**Ecclesiastes 9:11 (KJV)**

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**<sup>11</sup> I realized another thing, that in this world fast runners do not always win the races, and the brave do not always win the battles. The wise do not always earn a living, intelligent people do not always get rich, and capable people do not always rise to high positions. Bad luck happens to everyone.**

Who Gets to Be President?



**THE UNPREDICTABLE ELECTION**



# The Unpredictable Election



1. Our Abilities  
are no  
guarantee of  
success ( vv. 11-  
12 ).

# Ecclesiastes 9:11 (KJV)



**<sup>11</sup> I realized another thing, that in this world fast runners do not always win the races, and the brave do not always win the battles. The wise do not always earn a living, intelligent people do not always get rich, and capable people do not always rise to high positions. Bad luck happens to everyone.**

# Ecclesiastes 9:12 (KJV)



<sup>12</sup> For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so *are* the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.

Solomon provides **5 Illustrations** to show how often this is true (**v.11a**):

1. The **fastest runner** does not always win the race.
2. The **most powerful army** does not always prevail in the battle.
3. The **wise person** does not always make an adequate living.
4. The **smartest person** does not always get rich.
5. The **best-educated** or **most highly-skilled person** may not be supported by his superiors or may not work under favorable circumstances.

## 3 Reasons why ability is not a Guarantee for Success.

1. **Time limitations** and **chance** can affect **success** (**v.11b**).
2. **Unanticipated death** can affect **success** (**v.12a**).
3. **Unexpected** or **catastrophic events** can affect **success** (**v.12b**).



# The Unpredictable Election



2. Our  
Opportunities are  
no Guarantee of  
Success (**vv.13-18**).

Wisdom and Accomplishments are  
not a guarantee of success  
( **vv. 13-18** ).

**Ecclesiastes  
9:13 (KJV)**



**13 This wisdom  
have I seen also  
under the sun,  
and it *seemed*  
great unto me:**

**Ecclesiastes  
9:14 (KJV)**



**<sup>14</sup> *There was a little city,  
and few men within it;  
and there came a great  
king against it, and  
besieged it, and built  
great bulwarks against  
it:***

**Ecclesiastes  
9:15 (KJV)**



**15 Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man.**

**Ecclesiastes  
9:16 (KJV)**



**<sup>16</sup> Then said I, Wisdom  
*is* better than  
strength: nevertheless  
the poor man's  
wisdom *is* despised,  
and his words are not  
heard.**

**Ecclesiastes  
9:16 (KJV)**



**<sup>16</sup> Then said I, Wisdom  
*is* better than  
strength: nevertheless  
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wisdom *is* despised,  
and his words are not  
heard.**

**Ecclesiastes  
9:17 (KJV)**



**17 The words of wise  
*men are* heard in  
quiet more than the  
cry of him that  
ruleth among fools.**

**Ecclesiastes**

**9:18 (KJV)**



**<sup>18</sup> Wisdom *is* better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good.**



**Wisdom and accomplishments are not a guarantee of success (**vv. 13-18**).**

**1) The event concerns a poor but wise man (**vv. 14-15**).**

**A. A small city was under attack by a powerful king (**v.14**).**

**B. The strategy was carried out and, as a result, the city was saved (**v.15**).**

**2) The lessons learned (**vv. 16-18**).** Solomon learned three important lessons from this event, lessons he passes down to us.

## 3 Important Lessons from this Event

1. Wisdom and accomplishments can be despised and go unrewarded because of **prejudice** and **prideful, self-centered** people (**v.16**).

2. **Wise words spoken quietly** are more powerful than the **shouts of the foolish** (**v.17**).

3. **Wisdom is powerful**, but **one sinner** can counteract much of the good that **the wise** do (**v.18**).

# **What American Christians should do After 2020 Election Season.**

- I. Realize God answered prayer.**
- 2. We must accept the results with humility and thanksgiving.**
- 3. We must seize the chance God has given us.**

Ecclesiastes 1:9  
(KJV)



**9 The thing that hath been, it *is that* which shall be; and that which is done *is that* which shall be done: and *there is* no new *thing* under the sun.**

# Life offers No Guarantees.

Abilities and knowledge do not guarantee success.

Doing something of great significance for others does not guarantee gratitude. Some unforeseen catastrophe, including death, can change all of our plans.

# **We would be most wise to **Recall** and **Review** the wise counsel King Solomon**

## **Facts to Help us keep our Priorities Right:**

- 1. Life is unpredictable—there are no guarantees.**
- 2. Death is certain—it is the end of all hope.**
- 3. Enjoy life while you can—acknowledge God as the Giver of life.**

**We would be most wise to **Recall** and **Review**  
the wise counsel King Solomon**

**Facts to Help us keep our Priorities Right:**

**Take to heart the places where true happiness is  
found:**

- 1. In your marriage**
- 2. In honest, diligent work**
- 3. In friends and family**
- 4. In the common occurrences of day-to-day  
life**
- 5. In treasuring and making each day special**



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