

WHEN FOOLS RUSH
IN

“Foolish people make decisions quickly, with little serious thought.”



*Alexander Pope, An Essay on Criticism, lines 612-615,
620-625 (1711)*

**The Bookful Blockhead, ignorantly read,
With *Loads of Learned Lumber* in his Head,
With his own Tongue still edifies his Ears,
And always *List'ning to Himself* appears.**

...

**Name a new *Play*, and *he's* the Poet's *Friend*,
Nay show'd his Faults—but when wou'd Poets mend?
No Place so Sacred from such Fops is barr'd,
Nor is *Paul's Church* more safe than *Paul's Church-yard*:
Nay, fly to *Altars*; *there* they'll talk you dead;
For *Fools* rush in where *Angels* fear to tread.**

Ecclesiastes 5:4

**When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it;
for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast
vowed.**

Encouragement Against Foolishness

A. Not in our spiritual walk

Ephesians 5:15

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

B. Not in our spiritual sight

Psalms 5:5

The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

C. Not in our spiritual perspective

Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

I. The Skeptical Fool

A. A moral problem

Psalm 14:1

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.

2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.

3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

4 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.

I. The Skeptical Fool

B. An intellectual failure

Romans 1:18-22

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

I. The Skeptical Fool

B. An intellectual failure

Romans 1:18-22 - continued

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

I. The Skeptical Fool

No Thought Of God

II. The Scoffing Fool

A. Makes light of sin

Proverbs 14:9

Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour.

B. Tries to cover it up

Luke 11:39-40

39 And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness.

40 Ye fools, did not he that made that which is without make that which is within also?

II. The Scoffing Fool

C. Ignores the Word of God

2 Peter 3:3-7

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

II. The Scoffing Fool

C. Ignores the Word of God

2 Peter 3:3-7 - continued

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

II. The Scoffing Fool

No Truth Of God

1 John 2:4

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

III. The Secular Fool

Luke 12:16-21

16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

III. The Secular Fool

Luke 12:16-21 – continued

20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

A. Ignores the workings of God

B. Ignores the opportunities from God

C. Ignores the coming eternal judgment of God

III. The Secular Fool

No Time For God

IV. The Consequences Of Being A Fool

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.