

~FOOL (378)

- Rather than denoting a person who is lacking in mental ability, the word fool, as used in the Bible, generally refers to an individual who **spurns reason and follows a morally insensible course out of harmony with God's righteous standards**. Various **Hebrew** terms denoting such a one are *kesil'*, stupid one
- How long will you inexperienced ones keep loving inexperience, and how long must you ridiculers desire for yourselves outright ridicule, and how long will you stupid ones keep hating knowledge? (**Proverbs 1:22**)
- *'ewil'* - **foolish one**
- The way of the **foolish** one is right in his own eyes, but the one listening to counsel is wise. (**Proverbs 12:15**)
- *Na-val'*, **senseless one**
- For anyone senseless the lip of uprightness is not fitting. How much less so for a noble the lip of falsehood! (**Proverbs 17:7**)
- *lets*, **ridiculer**
- A son is wise where there is a fathers discipline, but the ridiculer is one that has not heard rebuke. (**Proverbs 13:1**)
- The **Greek** *a'phron* refers to an unreasonable one.
- But God said to him; Unreasonable one, this night they are demanding your soul from you. Who, then, is to have the things you stored up? (**Luke 12:20**)
- *A-no'e-tos* to one senseless,
- O **senseless** Galatians, who is it that brought you under evil influence, you before whose eyes Jesus Christ was openly portrayed impaled? (**Galatians 3:1**)
- *Mo-ros'* to a **fool** or foolish one,

- **Fools** and blind ones! Which, in fact, is greater, the gold or the temple that has sanctified the gold? (**Matthew 23:17**)
- Five of them were **foolish**, and five were discreet. (**Matthew 25:2**)
- The course of the man Nabal illustrates the way of a **fool**, (**1 Samuel Chapter 25**) as does that of people who know the true God and then worship created things.
- For his invisible qualities are clearly seen from the world's creation onward, because they are perceived by the things made, even his eternal power and godship, so that they are inexcusable. (**Romans 1:20**)
- Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify him as God nor did they thank him, but they became empty-headed in their reasonings and their unintelligent heart became darkened. (**Romans 1:21**)
- Although asserting they were wise, they became **foolish** (**Romans 1:22**)
- And turned the glory of the incorruptible God into something like the image of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed creatures and creeping things. (**Romans 1:23**)
- Therefore God, in keeping with the desires of their hearts, gave them up to uncleanness, that their bodies might be dishonored among them. (**Romans 1:24**)
- Even those who exchanged the truth of God for the lie and venerated and rendered sacred service to the creation rather than the One who created, who is blessed forever. Amen. (**Romans 1:25**)
- Isaiah said a **fool**, or senseless person, will speak mere **senselessness**, and his very heart will work at what is hurtful, to work at apostasy and to speak against Yehowah what is wayward, to cause the soul of the hungry one to go empty, and he causes even the thirsty one to go without drink itself.
- Because the **senseless** one himself will speak mere senselessness, and his very heart will work at what is hurtful, to work at apostasy and to speak against Yehowah what is

wayward, to cause the soul of the hungry one to go empty, and he causes even the thirsty one to go without drink itself. ([Isaiah 32:6](#))

- The **fool** despises wisdom and discipline.
- The fear of Yehowah is the beginning of knowledge. Wisdom and discipline are what mere **fools** have despised. ([Proverbs 1:7](#))
- Instead of heeding counsel, the **fool** continues walking in a way he considers right in his own eyes.
- The way of the **foolish** one is right in his own eyes, but the one listening to counsel is wise. ([Proverbs 12:15](#))
- He is quick to take offense and bursts out in disputing.
- Do not hurry yourself in your spirit to become offended, for the taking of offense is what rests in the bosom of the **stupid** ones. ([Ecclesiastes 7:9](#))
- It is a glory for a man to desist from disputing, but everyone **foolish** will burst out in it. ([Proverbs 20:3](#))
- He says in his heart, his actions indicating what his lips may not say in so many words; There is no Yehowah.
- The **senseless** one has said in his heart; There is no Yehowah. They have acted ruinously, they have acted detestably in their dealing. There is no one doing good. ([Psalms 14:1](#))
- Jesus Christ rightly referred to the scribes and Pharisees as **fools** and **blind** ones, that is, persons lacking wisdom and being morally worthless, for they had distorted the truth by man-made traditions and followed a hypocritical course. Moreover, Jesus backed up the correctness of this designation by illustrating their lack of discernment.
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you traverse sea and dry land to make one proselyte, and when he becomes one you make him a subject for Gehenna twice as much so as yourselves. ([Matthew 23:15](#))
- Woe to you, blind guides, who say; If anyone swears by the temple, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gold of the

- temple, he is under obligation. (**Matthew 23:16**)
- **Fools** and blind ones! Which, in fact, is greater, the gold or the temple that has sanctified the gold? (**Matthew 23:17**)
 - Also, If anyone swears by the altar, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gift on it, he is under obligation. (**Matthew 23:18**)
 - Blind ones! Which, in fact, is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? (**Matthew 23:19**)
 - Therefore he that swears by the altar is swearing by it and by all the things on it. (**Matthew 23:20**)
 - And he that swears by the temple is swearing by it and by him that is inhabiting it. (**Matthew 23:21**)
 - And he that swears by heaven is swearing by the throne of God and by him that is sitting on it. (**Matthew 23:22**)
 - In reply he said to them; Why is it you also overstep the commandment of God because of your tradition? (**Matthew 15:3**)
 - However, the individual wrongly calling a brother a **despicable fool**, judging and condemning his brother as being morally worthless, would make himself liable to Gehenna.
 - However, I say to you that everyone who continues wrathful with his brother will be accountable to the court of justice, but whoever addresses his brother with an unspeakable word of contempt will be accountable to the Supreme Court, whereas whoever says; You **despicable fool**! Will be liable to the fiery Gehenna. (**Matthew 5:22**)
 - But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you also look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God. (**Romans 14:10**)
 - For it is written: As I live, says Yehowah, to me every knee will bend down, and every tongue will make open acknowledgment to God. (**Romans 14:11**)
 - So, then, each of us will render an account for himself to God. (**Romans 14:12**)

- Stop judging that you may not be judged. ([Matthew 7:1](#))
- For with what judgment you are judging, you will be judged, and with the measure that you are measuring out, they will measure out to you. ([Matthew 7:2](#))
- The **foolish** man who built his house upon the sand and the rich man whose land was producing well, and who therefore planned to expand his storage facilities and then really enjoy life, are examples of Jesus fine illustrations from daily life highlighting the foolishness of neglecting spiritual things and thereby missing out on the real blessing.
- Moreover, failing to keep on the watch in a spiritual way is folly, as is emphasized by Jesus illustration of the five **foolish** virgins who, in going out to meet the bridegroom, took no oil with them for their lamps.
- Therefore everyone that hears these sayings of mine and does them will be likened to a discreet man, who built his house upon the rock-mass. ([Matthew 7:24](#))
- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and lashed against that house, but it did not cave in, for it had been founded upon the rock-mass. ([Matthew 7:25](#))
- Furthermore, everyone hearing these sayings of mine and not doing them will be likened to a **foolish** man, who built his house upon the sand. ([Matthew 7:26](#))
- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and struck against that house and it caved in, and its collapse was great. ([Matthew 7:27](#))
- With that he spoke an illustration to them, saying; The land of a certain rich man produced well. ([Luke 12:16](#))
- Consequently he began reasoning within himself, saying; What shall I do, now that I have nowhere to gather my crops? ([Luke 12:17](#))
- So he said; I will do this. I will tear down my storehouses and build bigger ones, and there I will gather all my grain and all my

good things. (Luke 12:18)

- And I will say to my soul; Soul, you have many good things laid up for many years. Take your ease, eat, drink, enjoy yourself. (Luke 12:19)
- But God said to him; Unreasonable one, this night they are demanding your soul from you. Who, then, is to have the things you stored up? (Luke 12:20)
- So it goes with the man that lays up treasure for himself but is not rich toward God. (Luke 12:21)
- Then the kingdom of the heavens will become like ten virgins that took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. (Matthew 25:1)
- Five of them were foolish, and five were discreet. (Matthew 25:2)
- For the foolish took their lamps but took no oil with them. (Matthew 25:3)
- Whereas the discreet took oil in their receptacles with their lamps. (Matthew 25:4)
- While the bridegroom was delaying, they all nodded and went to sleep. (Matthew 25:5)
- Right in the middle of the night there arose a cry; Here is the bridegroom! Be on your way out to meet him. (Matthew 25:6)
- Then all those virgins rose and put their lamps in order. (Matthew 25:7)
- The foolish said to the discreet; Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are about to go out. (Matthew 25:8)
- The discreet answered with the words, Perhaps there may not be quite enough for us and you. Be on your way, instead, to those who sell it and buy for yourselves. (Matthew 25:9)
- While they were going off to buy, the bridegroom arrived, and the virgins that were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. (Matthew 25:10)

- Afterwards the rest of the virgins also came, saying; Sir, sir, open to us! (**Matthew 25:11**)
- In answer he said; I tell you the truth, I do not know you. (**Matthew 25:12**)
- Keep on the watch, therefore, because you know neither the day nor the hour. (**Matthew 25:13**)
- To become truly wise, a person must become a **fool** in the eyes of the world, for the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. It is not the worldly wise but those looked down upon as persons without knowledge, fools, whom Yehowah has chosen to represent him.
- This has resulted in making the foolishness of this world even more apparent. Furthermore, this removes all reason for boasting on the part of the favored individual. Instead, all glory goes rightfully to the Source of wisdom, Yehowah.
- Let no one be seducing himself. If anyone among you thinks he is wise in this system of things, let him become a **fool**, that he may become wise. (**1 Corinthians 3:18**)
- For the wisdom of this world is **foolishness** with God, for it is written: He catches the wise in their own cunning. (**1 Corinthians 3:19**)
- For the speech about the torture stake is **foolishness** to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is God's power. (**1 Corinthians 1:18**)
- For it is written: I will make the wisdom of the wise men perish, and the intelligence of the intellectual men I will shove aside. (**1 Corinthians 1:19**)
- Where is the wise man? Where the scribe? Where the debater of this system of things? Did not God make the wisdom of the world **foolish**? (**1 Corinthians 1:20**)
- For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through its wisdom did not get to know God, God saw good through the **foolishness** of what is preached to save those believing. (**1 Corinthians 1:21**)

- For both the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks look for wisdom. (1 Corinthians 1:22)
- But we preach Christ impaled, to the Jews a cause for stumbling but to the nations **foolishness**. (1 Corinthians 1:23)
- However, to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. (1 Corinthians 1:24)
- Because a **foolish** thing of God is wiser than men, and a weak thing of God is stronger than men. (1 Corinthians 1:25)
- For you behold his calling of you, brothers, that not many wise in a fleshly way were called, not many powerful, not many of noble birth. (1 Corinthians 1:26)
- But God chose the **foolish** things of the world, that he might put the wise men to shame, and God chose the weak things of the world, that he might put the strong things to shame. (1 Corinthians 1:27)
- And God chose the ignoble things of the world and the things looked down upon, the things that are not, that he might bring to nothing the things that are. (1 Corinthians 1:28)
- In order, that no flesh might boast in the sight of God. (1 Corinthians 1:29)
- But it is due to him that you are in union with Christ Jesus, who has become to us wisdom from God, also righteousness and sanctification and release by ransom. (1 Corinthians 1:30)
- That it may be just as it is written: He that boasts, let him boast in Yehowah. (1 Corinthians 1:31)
- Answering a **fool** in harmony with or according to his **foolishness** in the sense of resorting to his degrading methods of argument puts the one so doing in agreement with the fools unsound reasonings or ways.
- In order not to become like the fool in this respect, we are counseled by the Proverb: Do not answer anyone stupid according to his foolishness. On the other hand;

- Do not answer anyone stupid according to his **foolishness**, that you yourself also may not become equal to him. (**Proverbs 26:4**)
- Answer someone stupid according to his **foolishness**, that he may not become someone wise in his own eyes. (**Proverbs 26:5**)

Shows that answering him according to his foolishness in the sense of analyzing his contentions, exposing them as being ridiculous, and showing that his own arguments lead to entirely different conclusions from those he has drawn can be beneficial.