

## Ecclesiastes 7:13, “Consider the work of God: for who can make that straight, which he hath made crooked?”



Remember Grimm’s fairy tale about the Crooked Old Man? He lived in a crooked house and had a crooked cat. He never gets ‘straightened out’ because it is impossible to straighten out a crooked man who becomes ‘bowed’ from old age. And once a foundation is crooked on a house, the house remains crooked and can never be straightened out.

The crooked ways of evil are the same. They can never be straightened out. People may say and convince themselves that certain crooked ways are now OKAY for everyone, but what God has stated as crooked can never be made un-crooked.

While studying the breakdown of the words in this verse, I found several things to be most interesting.

The Hebrew word “taqan” which is translated into the phrase ‘make that straight’ is found in two other verses.

Ecclesiastes 1:15, “That which is crooked cannot be made straight: and that which is wanting cannot be numbered.”

**A crooked thought or action can never be made straight and will always leave you with no joy – your spirit will be left wanting.**

Ecclesiastes 12:9, “And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs.”

**Crooked thoughts and actions must be set in order or identified by God’s Holy Word. God’s Word marks them as crooked and man cannot change that fact.**

The Hebrew word “avath” which is translated into the phrase ‘which he hath made crooked’ is found in the following verses:

Job 8:3, “Doth God pervert judgment? Or doth the Almighty pervert justice?”

Job 34:12, “Yea, surely God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment.”

**Crookedness perverts judgment and justice. Crookedness is an attempt by man to make wrong right.**

Job 19:6, “Know now that God hath overthrown me, and hath compassed me with his net.”

**Crookedness can overthrow me and trap me, thus having dominion over me. (Psalm 119:133 – “Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.”)**

Psalm 119:78, “Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause but I will meditate in thy precepts.”

**Others who practice crookedness will deal perversely with you without just cause.**

Psalm 146:9, “The LORD perserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down.”

**The ways of the crooked will turn everything upside down resulting in chaos and confusion.**

Ecclesiastes 12:3, “In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened,” (The word ‘bow’ is used to describe the crippling effects of old age.)

**Just like old age will slowly cripple you so will the ways of the crooked.**

Lam. 3:36, “To subvert a man in his cause, the Lord approveth not.”

**Crookedness will corrupt the way you think. Evil ways will seem to become right ways in your mind.**

Amos 8:5, “Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? And the Sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?”

**Crookedness will always yield balances of deceit!**