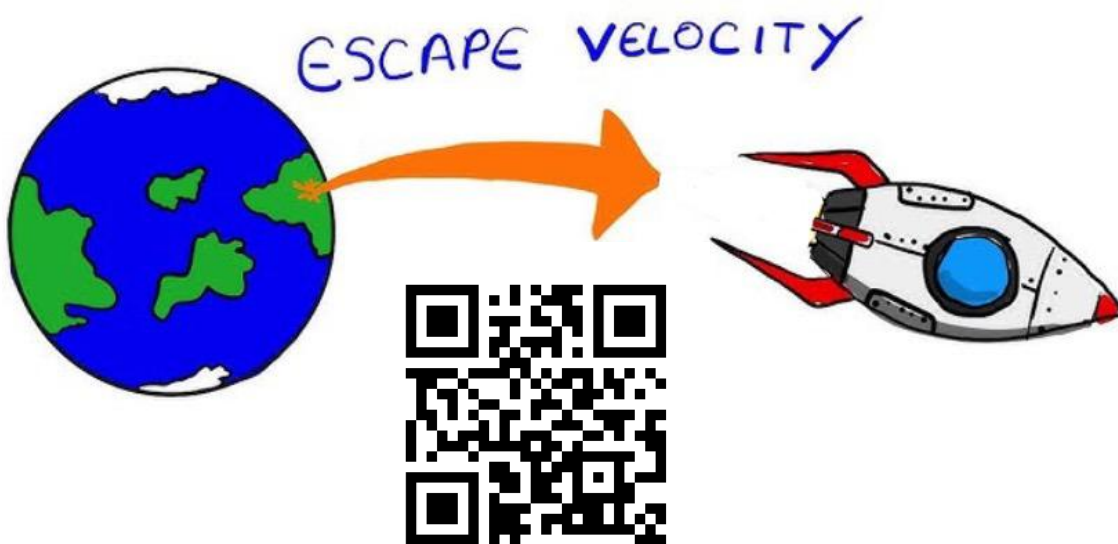


Gravity

- What does gravity do?
- What does gravity affect?
- Gravity affects every aspect of humanity
 - Body
 - Mind **decay**
 - Soul
- What can we do about it?

1

Escaping Gravity Ecclesiastes 9:13-10:20 / ref.ly/Ecc9;niv



@fastphysics236

2

Context: Wisdom was **highly** valued

"By wisdom the Lord **laid the earth's foundations**,
by understanding he set the heavens in place..."

Proverbs 3:19

"Blessed are those who find wisdom,
those who gain understanding,
for she is **more profitable than silver**
and yields better returns than gold."

Proverbs 3:13-14

3

Context: Wisdom was **highly** valued

"Choose my instruction instead of silver,
knowledge rather than choice gold,
for wisdom is **more precious than rubies**,
and **nothing you desire can compare with her.**"

Proverbs 8:10-11

"For through wisdom **your days will be many**,
and **years will be added** to your life."

Proverbs 9:11

Is it enough?

4

Ecclesiastes 9:13-16

¹³ I also saw under the sun this example of wisdom that greatly **impressed me**: ¹⁴ There was once a small city with only a few people in it. And a powerful king came against it, surrounded it and built huge siege works against it. ¹⁵ Now there lived in that city a man poor but wise, and he saved the city by his wisdom. **But nobody remembered that poor man.** ¹⁶ So I said, "Wisdom is better than strength."

But the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are no longer heeded.

5

Ecclesiastes 9:17-10:1

¹⁷ The **quiet** words of the wise are more to be heeded than the **shouts** of a ruler of fools.

¹⁸ Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but **one sinner destroys much good.**

^{10:1} As dead flies give perfume a bad smell, so **a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.**

**Gravity pulls everything down
Good is so easily ruined by people**

6

Ecclesiastes 10:2-4

- ² The heart of the wise inclines to the right,
but the heart of the fool to the left.
- ³ Even as fools walk along the road,
they lack sense
and show everyone how stupid they are.
- ⁴ If a ruler's anger rises against you,
do not leave your post;
calmness can lay great offenses to rest.

Gravity pulls everything down

Good is so easily ruined by people

→ Be careful when you are around foolish people/leaders

7

Ecclesiastes 10:5-7

- ⁵ There is an evil I have seen under the sun,
the sort of error that arises from a ruler:
- ⁶ Fools are put in many high positions,
while the rich occupy the low ones.
- ⁷ I have seen slaves on horseback,
while princes go on foot like slaves.

Gravity pulls everything down

Good is so easily ruined by people

→ Especially foolish rulers
who honor and empower the wrong people

8

Ecclesiastes 10:8-11

⁸ Whoever digs a pit may fall into it;
 whoever breaks through a wall
 may be bitten by a snake.

⁹ Whoever quarries stones may be injured by them;
 whoever splits logs may be endangered by them.

¹⁰ If the ax is dull **Gravity pulls everything down**
 and its edge unsharpened, **by natural causes**
 more strength is needed,
 but skill will bring success. **Wisdom can help**

¹¹ If a snake bites before it is charmed,
 the charmer receives no fee. **But gravity**
still wins

9

Ecclesiastes 10:12-15

¹² Words from the mouth of the wise are gracious,
 but fools are **consumed by their own lips.**

¹³ At the beginning their words are folly;
 at the end they are **wicked madness—**

¹⁴ and fools multiply words.

No one knows what is coming—
 who can tell someone else what will happen
 after them?

¹⁵ The toil of fools wears them;
 they do not know the way to town.

Gravity pulls everything down
Especially through foolishness

10

Ecclesiastes 10:16-19

is immature

¹⁶ Woe to the land whose king was a servant
and whose princes feast in the morning.

¹⁷ Blessed is the land whose king is of noble birth
and whose princes eat at a proper time—
for strength and not for drunkenness.

¹⁸ Through laziness, the rafters sag;
because of idle hands, the house leaks.

¹⁹ A feast is made for laughter,
wine makes life merry,
and money is the answer for everything.

Money speaks louder
than wisdom

Gravity pulls everything down
Especially through foolish leaders

11

Ecclesiastes 10:20

²⁰ Do not revile the king even in your thoughts,
or curse the rich in your bedroom,
because a bird in the sky may carry your words,
and a bird on the wing may report what you say.

Gravity pulls everything down
Especially through foolish leaders
And there is no escape

12

The Main Point

Gravity pulls everything down

- Body
- Relationships
- Soul

Not even wisdom and skill are enough

Not even a fresh start

A little bad spoils a whole bunch of good!

13

For the creation was **subjected to frustration,** not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it,

Romans 8:20-21

14

Escaping Gravity

Zero gravity flights

- 30 seconds at a time
- \$9,900 for 7.5 minutes!
- Falling with the plane



15

ESCAPE VELOCITY

Escape velocity
 25,000 miles per hour / 40,000 km per hour
 It would burn you up or rip you to shreds!!

16

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it,

Romans 8:20-21

17

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

Romans 8:20-21

18

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where **moths and vermin destroy**, and where **thieves break in and steal**. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin **do not destroy**, and where thieves **do not break in and steal**. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 5:19-21

In our world, people and natural causes
ruin what is good
Jesus reverses decay and brings flourishing

19

“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore **buried with him through baptism into death** in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, **we too may live a new life.**”

Romans 6:3-4

Jesus conquered sin and death

He gives that victory to everyone who is in Jesus

- admits that gravity rules them (sin and death)
- puts their trust in Jesus’ death and resurrection

20

The Main Point

Gravity pulls everything down
Not even wisdom and skill are enough

Jesus alone conquered gravity (sin and death)

He offers that freedom to all who trust in Him

21

Application

Admit the problem of decay in EVERYTHING

- Death: the natural decay of everything
- Sin: decay of the human heart
- Affects our bodies, our relationships, our souls
- **There is no human or natural solution!**

22

Application

Admit the problem of decay in EVERYTHING

Trust in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection

- The only One who has conquered sin and death
- Jesus Christ solved the unsolvable!
- "The old order of things has passed away.
He who was seated on the throne said,
"I am making everything new!"" Revelation 21:4-5
- "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"
 2 Corinthians 5:17

23

And there is salvation in no one else,
 for there is no other name under heaven
 given among men by which we must be saved.
 Acts 4:12

He ... asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you
 will be saved—you and your household."
 Acts 16:30-31

24

The Main Point

Gravity pulls everything down
Not even wisdom and skill are enough

**Jesus' death and resurrection
solved the unsolvable (sin and death)**

He offers that freedom to all who trust in Him

25

May the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace
as you trust in him,
so that you may **overflow with hope**
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,
the **new creation has come:**
The old has gone, **the new is here!**”

2 Corinthians 5:17

26