Solomon now comes to a sin that has been prevalent in every generation since the fall; thinking/speaking evil thoughts about the King (or civil authorities) in secret. Ecclesiastes 10:20

There's always a little birdie; there's always an ear listening, (God is listening), eventually, what you said in secret will come to light. This is the Wisdom of Solomon, but this wisdom from God and from His Word as well for every one of us as children of God to heed and practice.

This is a Christian Identifier. Exodus 22:28: "Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people". Acts 23:1-5

To think evil those who are in authority over you, (in Solomon's day – the King), in our day, the president, the governor, your leaders, those who are in any authority, or to curse the rich in private REVEALS pride in your heart against God! How so?

Think about it, if you CURSE the King in your thoughts; or those who are in authority over you, OR, if you CURSE the rich in private, your sin and your resistance, (or your evil thoughts and words) are actually against God. Because God appointed your rulers over you, and God gave riches to the rich whom you are cursing in private.

Romans 13:1-2, 2 Peter 2:9-10, Jude 1:8

As for speaking evil of the rich, it simply reveals discontentment in your heart, envy and jealousy against God for not giving you great riches.

Don't forget (V19): Indeed money answereth all things, (how you think and deal with your money will reveal your heart), so what you think or speak of God's sovereign authority will be revealed in how you think/speak of the earthly authorities whom God has placed over you, and of those to whom God has given riches.

And...your evil thoughts and words (spoken in private) won't remain private, but your disloyalty and resistance to the wisdom and providence of God will be made public. Matthew 12:36-37

Solomon is teaching us: Discipline of our thoughts and discipline of our tongue; but that won't happen unless your heart is first devoted to Christ.

Beloved, if we believe that God is sovereign and in complete control over all of the affairs in the world, why would we think or speak evil against those to whom He has raised to the throne of power.

And listen, ALL OF US would love to have Christian leaders and for the world to be Christian in its thinking; but it's not going to happen! We've seen in the history of the Kingdom of Israel that THAT God raised up rulers to accomplish His purposes, (at times) His purpose was to bring judgment upon His people. *Jeremiah* 25:8-11, 26:6-7, 29:4-7

"The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will, and setteth up over it the basest of men"

The King, the President, the Governor is in office because God put him there! Our place is not to curse or speak evil of leaders, ours is to be faithful witnesses and ambassadors of Christ in this present evil world no matter who our leaders are.

The Lord Jesus didn't resist or speak evil of Caesar!

Therefore, beloved, we must follow the example of our Lord and walk in His steps to NOT think or speak against our leaders or the rich and noble.

This is why I am against "Christian Activism", Christians spending all their energies advocating to legislate Christianity into the world.

We are IN the world, but NOT of it. But this is where animus and anger are conceived in the hearts of "Christians" against rulers and leaders whom God has set up...to think and speak evil of them and to curse them in our minds! If we're given over to this idea of Christian activism in the world, (THEN WHEN THE WORLD REFUSES TO COMPLY), THIS is where evil thoughts begin to enter our minds and evil speakings come out of our mouths RATHER THAN the gospel, WHICH is what we SHOULD BE THINKING and SPEAKING and WITNESSING in the world!

"Christian Political Activism" may seem noble, BUT this is where so many Christians are derailed from "seek ye FIRST the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness"!

This is where so many "Christians" stop being spiritually minded, and instead they become politically minded and politically motivated and they develop political enemies, OF WHOM they THINK and SPEAK EVIL.

Instead of thinking and speaking evil about our leaders, (in secret) we ought to be praying for our leaders (in secret)!

Bottom Line Up Front: God commands us multiple times to NOT speak evil of dignities, leaders, kings; those that are in authority. THAT, in and of itself ought to be the greatest influence upon us to be obedient to His command! And beloved, God is listening!

Psalm 90:8, 139:1-4, Luke 12:1-2, Hebrews 4:12-13

Curse not the rich in private!

If you do, it will reveal discontentment in your own heart with what God has given you.