Chapter 11 - WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM PROVERBS

Solomon's Godly Advice

Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. 6 *Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will keep you.* 7 *Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting,* ***get understanding*** (Pro. 4:5-7). *p. 163*

Divinely Revealed Wisdom

Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart, to judge Your people, that I may ***discern between*** *good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"* 10 *The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing (I Kings 3:9-10). p. 164*

And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. (1 Kings 4:29-31a). p. 164

The Wisdom of Possessing Wisdom!

The Lord possessed me ***at the beginning*** *of His way, before His works of old,* 23 *I have been established from everlasting, from the beginning, before there was ever an earth.* 24 *When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no fountains abounding with water.* 25 *Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth (Pro. 8:22-25). p. 164*

When He assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters would not transgress His command, when He marked out the foundations of the earth, 30 *then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him (Pro. 8:29-30). p. 165*

WISDOM INVITES US TO LISTEN AND LEARN!

Wisdom calls aloud outside: She raises her voice in the open squares. 21 *She cries out in the chief concourses. At the openings of the gates in the city she speaks her words:* 22 How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in the scorning, and fools hate knowledge. 23 ***Turn at my rebuke****; surely, I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you* (Pro. 1:20-23). *p. 165*

"*Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" As for him who lacks understanding*, she says to him, 5 "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. 6 *Forsake foolishness and live, and go in the way of understanding* (Pro. 9:4-6). *p. 165*

Ignore Wisdom at Your Own Peril

Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded. 25 Because *you disdained all my counsel and would have none of my rebuke*, 26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes, 27 when your terror comes like a storm, and your destruction comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you (Prov 1:24-27). *p. 165*

Then *they will call on me, but I will not answer, They will seek me diligently but they will not find me*. 29 Because ***they*** ***hated*** ***knowledge*** *and did not choose fear of the Lord*. 30 *They would have none of my counsel and despised my every rebuke*. 31 Therefore *they shall eat the fruit of their own way, and be filled to the full with their own fancies* (Pro. 1:28-31). *p. 165*

Pray daily for God to give you wisdom;
both godly wisdom and practical wisdom! *p. 166*

The Number ONE Priority of Wisdom *p. 166*

The ***fear*** ***of*** ***the*** ***Lord*** *is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding* (Pro. 9:10). *p. 163*

The first step in being wise is recognizing God is Supreme. He is God of the Universe. He is Alpha and Omega; the Beginning and the End; the God who is, who was and who is to come. We will all stand before Him in judgement to give account for how we lived our life. *p. 166*

A FEW SPECIAL PROVERBS

Danger of Playing with Fire

Can a man take ***fire*** ***to*** ***his*** ***bosom****, and his clothes not be burned?* 28 *Can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be seared?* (Pro. 6:27-28). *p. 166*

Everything Good Has Its Down-side

Where no oxen are, the trough is clean; but much increase comes by the strength of an ox (Pro. 14:4). *p. 167*

Confession and Repentance of Sin Necessary to Receive Mercy

He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy (Pro. 28:13). *p. 167*

You Can't Win Against God

There is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the Lord (Pro. 21:30). *p. 167*

Never Quit; Never Quit; Never Quit

*For a righteous man may fall seven times and **rise** **again**, but the wicked shall fall by calamity* (Pro. 24:16). *p. 167*

Sharpen Your Axe

If the axe is dull, and one does not sharpen the edge, then he must use more strength; but wisdom brings success (Ecc. 10:10). *p. 168*

VARIOUS TOPICS COVERED IN PROVERBS

Way of the Wicked and the Way of The Righteous

A wicked man is not established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous cannot be moved (Pro. 12:3). … The thoughts of the righteous are right, but the counsels of the wicked are deceitful (Pro. 12:5). *p. 168*

The Wisdom of Using Right Words

In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise. 20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is worth little (Pro. 10:19-20). *p. 168*

Malicious (Cruel) Words

*Death and life are in the power of the **tongue***, and those who love it will eat its fruit (Pro. 18:21). *p. 168*

Good Companions

The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray (Pro. 12:26). *p. 169*

He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed (Pro. 13:20). *p. 169*

Obtaining Advice and Counsel from Others

Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But *in the multitude of counselors there is safety* (Pro. 11:14). *p. 169*

Ability to Learn vs the One Who Refuses Correction

*Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but **he** **who** **hates** **correction** is stupid* (Pro. 12:1). *p. 169*

Being Industrious and Avoiding Laziness

The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich (Pro. 13:4). *p. 169*

Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and ***attend to your herds***; (Pro. 27:23). *p. 169*

Wisdom of Giving and Dangers of Greediness

There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing; and one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches (Pro. 13:7). *p. 170*

Self-Control (Over anger, over impulses and lusts)

He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and *he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city* (Pro. 16:32). *p. 170*

Honesty, Integrity and Not Cheating (Fair business practices!)

Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is His delight (Pro. 11:1). *p. 170*

Avoiding the Immoral Woman

For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, and her mouth is smoother than oil; 4 *but* ***in the end,*** *she is bitter as wormwood,* sharp as a two-edged sword (Pro. 5:3-4). *p. 170*

Danger of Liquor

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise (Pro. 20:1). *p. 170*