

“Insights into Glorifying God in Every Detail of Life”

Proverbs 13:16-22

10/26/22

Psalms 23:3

Psalms 16:11

Titles of the individual proverbs are adapted from *The Wisdom of Proverbs* by Bob Beasley

1. Apply Wisdom to Daily Life – 16

“prudent” – to be skillful, wise. Instead of having just head knowledge, the prudent person applies wisdom to daily life.

- The prudent will foresee difficulty in the road ahead and plan for it
- The prudent will think before making a promise
- The prudent will make decisions in light of eternity instead of simply for the moment

“knowledge” – of God’s ways and principles

2. Be a Faithful Ambassador of Christ – 17

“healing” – the faithful envoy contributes to the welfare of those he shares the message with

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

Romans 10:14-15

3. Open Your Ears to Receive Instruction – 18

“ignores instruction” – God gives His children instruction from His Word

There are bad consequences when we “ignore” God’s instruction

James 1:22-25

“reproof” – an important part of instruction

4. Long for the Sweet Taste of Righteousness – 19

“desires” – these are desires that conform to God’s character and His desires

“sweet to the soul” – Matthew 5:6; Psalm 23:1

“abomination of fools” – Solomon described where this eventually leads – Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

5. Choose Your Friends Wisely – 20

“becomes wise” – wisdom doesn’t just come from someone teaching us and admonishing us but also spending time with a wise person.

Wisdom isn’t simply taught – it’s caught

The greatest way to see this principle at work is for the believer to spend time with Jesus Christ – 2 Corinthians 3:18

6. Seek a Reward of Grace, Not Justice – 21

“disaster” – there will be various disasters as the non-believer goes through life but the ultimate disaster is the judgment (eternal punishment in Hell)

“sinners” – This is the reward of justice

This lesson is summed up in Numbers 32:23

This doesn’t always happen right away because God is long-suffering and gives time to repent.

But disaster still pursues the sinner even if it appears to be lagging behind

“good” – we were all born sinners and deserve to be pursued by judgment (“disaster”). But God in His grace doesn’t give those whom He has saved judgment, but instead lavishes them “with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places” – Ephesians 1:3

7. Leave the Inheritance of a Godly Life to the Next Generation – 22

“children” – more important than any material things he passes on to his children, he passes on to his children an example of godly living, an honored name, good values and stability.

“for the righteous” – those who accumulate earthly goods while denying God and living an unrighteous life, won’t ultimately hold on to the earthly goods.

Sometimes this proverb is literally fulfilled in this life:

- Much of Laban’s wealth wound up in the hands of Jacob – Genesis 31
- Egyptians’ wealth wound up in Israel’s hands – Exodus 12:35-36
- Haman’s wealth went to Esther and Mordecai – Esther 8:1-2