

Message #41

Proverbs 13:7-12

Pretending to be something that one is not has been a game that many people play in several different arenas in life. A person who plays a pretend game of spirituality, is one who is heading for a serious day before God.

A TRULY WISE, HONEST, RIGHTEOUS PERSON WILL EVENTUALLY END UP WITH A JOYFUL, BLESSED, AND RICH EXISTENCE; BUT A PRETENDER WILL SUFFER GREAT LOSS.

Solomon makes it very clear that just as an honest man is heading for blessings, so the pretender is heading to destruction.

SUBJECT #1 – Some people are pretenders. **13:7**

Both verbs “pretend” are Hithpael stem verbs in Hebrew, meaning that the action was done for the benefit of self. The action of pretending was self-inflicted! Apparently the rich person thought he could benefit himself by pretending to be poor and the poor person thought he could benefit himself by pretending to be rich. Both are losers because both are pretenders.

SUBJECT #2 – Some people are truly wealthy and some are truly poor. **13:8**

What Solomon seems to be saying is that a person will never find happiness, wealth and true prosperity until he is redeemed by the ransom price, but a poor fool will not listen to the rebuke concerning his need to be redeemed.

SUBJECT #3 – Those truly righteous will shine forever. **13:9**

The light of the righteous will shine forever, but that of the wicked will be extinguished.

SUBJECT #4 – The source of contentious problems is a proud person, not a wise one. **13:10**

The idea is that an arrogant, presumptuous person is the source of contention. It is the one who takes in counsel that is wise.

SUBJECT #5 – The method of attaining wealth determines whether it will last. **13:11**

There are two main ways to accumulate things: 1) By fraud; 2) By hard work.

SUBJECT #6 – One who has dreams come true is one who is healthy and refreshed. **13:12**

God allows many wonderful things to happen for one who is righteous and wise. Things that righteous people hope for often do come true.