

Pleasing the Father

Proverbs 10:1-16

I. Introduction: Structural Considerations (v1a)

- A. “The Proverbs of Solomon”
- B. Breaking down the Proverbs

II. “Makes a glad father” – Can man please God? (v1b)

- A. The impossibility of earning God’s favor
- B. God can be pleased and grieved
- C. God is pleased when his creative power is glorified

III. Living a God-pleasing lifestyle in work and words (v2-16)

A. Work and wealth (v2-5)

1. As a Father, God is pleased when his children use their resources for others, not themselves. (v2)
2. As a Father, God is pleased when his children find their satisfaction in him. (v3)
3. As a Father, God is pleased when his children work with *all* their might. (v4-5)

B. Communication (v6-14)

1. Effects on self
 - a. As a Father, God is pleased when his children have a righteous reputation. (v6-7)
 - b. As a Father, God is pleased when his children receive and obey his instruction. (v8-10)
2. Effects on others
 - a. As a Father, God is pleased when his children use words to encourage others. (v11-12)
 - b. As a Father, God is pleased when his children love and forgive. (v12)
 - c. As a Father, God is pleased when his children trust in him. (v15-16)

IV. Jesus Christ perfectly pleases the Father.

- A. The Gospel pleases God completely.
- B. Those in Christ are counted as wise sons.
- C. Works wrought *in Christ* are pleasing to the Father.