

“Insights into Glorifying God in Every Detail of Life”

Proverbs 11:1-13

3/30/22

Luke 1:6

1. Deal Honestly with Everyone – 1

Ephesians 4:28

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

God is perfect in His dealings with man and He is offended by any failure on our part to treat others honestly.

God has no tolerance for dishonest business practices. They are condemned in the Law, the Prophets and Proverbs.

The most important reason a believer is honest is not because we might be caught and pay a penalty, but because it delights the Lord. Delighting God should be my greatest delight.

Being honest shows that we are trusting the Lord to provide for us

2. Beware of Pride and the Disgrace It Brings – 2

Pride shows up as self-love, self-centeredness, self-promotion

Illustrations of disgrace coming because of pride:

- Nebuchadnezzar – Daniel 4:28-37
- Herod Agrippa – Acts 12:21-23

Pride comes naturally, but humility is a work of God in a person who acknowledges their sin and puts their trust in Christ.

The greatest teacher on humility is our Lord Jesus Christ Who is “gentle and humble in heart” – Matthew 11:29; Philippians 2:6-8

Jesus taught the disciples about humility in Luke 9:46-50

We will never glorify God if we are full of pride and we will never grow in sanctification if we are full of pride.

3. Be Delivered by Righteousness – 3-9

v. 3 Righteous people have a reputation of exhibiting godly character in every area of their life

When we were young our parents guided us in our decisions. By the time we are an adult our integrity guides us in our decisions (one of the ways the Holy Spirit guides us).

Illustration: Joseph

v. 4 “The day of wrath”=the day when Jesus comes in judgment on the ungodly – Revelation 6:15-17

Only the righteousness of Jesus given to the believer will provide refuge from God’s wrath.

“death”=eternal death

v. 5 “blameless”=not moral perfection, but absence of a moral blot on our reputation

“straight”=a path that doesn’t deviate from God’s righteousness (same Hebrew word in 3:5-6)

We will find that when we go God’s way, the pathway we walk will be much easier than the world’s pathway (fewer obstacles and troubles). But that doesn’t mean that it is free of conflicts and difficulties.

v. 7 The anticipation of the righteous is so different than that of the unrighteous – 23:18; 24:13-14

v. 8 “delivered from trouble”=by the Lord – Psalm 34:6

Illustration: Daniel

v. 9 “destroy his neighbor”=by slander and gossip, etc.

4. Bless Your Community by Your Faithful Walk – 10-11

When the righteous are living God’s way the people around them (“the city”) benefit.

“shouts of gladness”=Illustration: Wicked queen Athaliah – 2 Kings 11:20

5. Respect the Dignity of Others – 12-13

“belittles”=verbally expressing inward contempt

“silent”=rather than gossip, slander, give false witness, etc. the wise person holds himself in check because they love their neighbor and don’t harbor hatred in their heart – 10:12

The wise wait for the right time and place to speak.

Conclusion:

In light of Proverbs 11:1-13, ask yourself:

- Am I honest in all of my dealings with others?
- Does pride rear its ugly head in my life? Is there self-love, self-centeredness and/or self-promotion in my life?
- When people observe me, do they see much righteousness?
- Is the community where I live benefited by my presence?
- Does what comes out of my mouth express contempt for others or love and kindness?

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