

Message #117

Proverbs 27:22-27

WISE EMPLOYERS WILL BE DILIGENT TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF THEIR EMPLOYEES FOR THIS WILL BRING DIVINE BLESSINGS; BUT FOOLISH EMPLOYERS WILL NOT CHANGE.

EMPLOYER POINT #1 – Foolish employers will not be diligent to meet the needs of their employees. **27:22**

These verses in Scripture are filled with agricultural employment illustrations from Palestine, which clearly have to do with employer/employee relationships (27:18, 23-27). In this verse, the imagery is of “crushing grain.” The Hebrew words “crush,” “grain” and “pestle” are words that describe pounding and crushing through a series of blows until the grain is very small. The point of the proverb is even though you intensely pound and crush a fool, he will not change. In the context, the proverb is teaching that you can literally crush a foolish employer and still he will not permit himself to be humbled. He will not pay attention to care for his flock (27:23).

EMPLOYER POINT #2 – Wise employers will be diligent to meet the needs of their employees. **27:23-24**

The words “know well” is knowledge beyond surface. One who is a wise employer will pay attention to know the condition of his flocks and herds, which often is used as a metaphor for people (Matt. 25:32-33).

Verse 24 gives a reason for looking well into things because riches and honor do not last forever. I understand this to mean that if God is blessing, wise employers take good care of those connected to His blessing, because if they don't, God can remove that blessing. Not all generations get to experience great prosperity from God.

(Result #1) - The one who is diligent will meet his employee's needs. **27:25**

The wise employer will see that his employees have plenty to eat because well-cared for employees produce more prosperity.

(Result #2) - The one who is diligent will meet his own clothing needs. **27:26b**

As the diligent farmer cares for his animals, he will discover that in caring for them, his own needs are met.

(Result #3) - The one who is diligent will be able to meet his financial needs. **27:26b**

Goats were a money item, and a “he goat” was considered to be very valuable (30:31). The farmer who saw to it that his goats were well-cared for would discover that he would have the money he needed to run his own business.

(Result #4) - The one who is diligent will be able to meet his family's needs. **27:27**

God will see to it that this employer will not only prosper in business, but in his own family.

Wise employers take good care of their employees, but the foolish will not change even when God takes His blessings away.