

Message #74

Proverbs 19:19-23

If we want to grow to become a wise, skilled, healthy individual, we must gather in and imbibe the Word of God in the manner in which He has prescribed.

GOD'S WISDOM REQUIRES PROPER ATTITUDE AND ACTIONS TOWARD GOD, TOWARD KNOWLEDGE AND TOWARD PEOPLE.

RECOGNITION #1 – God's wisdom recognizes the need for punishment. **19:19**

In this proverb, there are basically two points brought out about someone who has a bad temper: 1) He is one who needs to be punished; 2) It is absolutely futile to deliver a bad-tempered person from punishment. Dr. Ryrie said, "It is futile to rescue a man given to anger, for his temper will repeatedly land him in fresh trouble."

The point of the proverb seems to me to be that the best thing a person can do for one who has a bad temper is let him suffer punishment and not attempt to deliver him from the punishment.

RECOGNITION #2 – God's wisdom recognizes the need for development. **19:20**

If one wants to be classified as wise and skilled in the things of God, he must purpose to listen to and apply the Word of God to his life. The acquisition of wisdom is not fast or easy. It requires learning and applying God's Word to life over a period of time.

RECOGNITION #3 – God's wisdom recognizes God's sovereignty. **19:21**

God is completely sovereign; 1) He can control the speech of a person (16:1); the steps of a person (16:9); and in this proverb, the plans of a person (**19:21**). The Hebrew words "plans" and "counsel" are different words. The word "stand" is a word that means to arise, to go forward and end up increasing, flourishing, and standing. What Solomon is saying is that man has lots of objectives and plans; but the plan that will rise to the top and stand is the plan of God. This is an amazing theological concept—man plans something, but God overrules the plan and only allows it in as much as it coincides with His sovereign plan.

RECOGNITION #4 – God's wisdom recognizes kindness and truthfulness. **19:22**

The word "desire" is one that refers to something that really stands out like an ornament, which is a real object of delight. What stands out to God is a man's kindness and truthfulness.

RECOGNITION #5– God's wisdom fears the LORD. **19:23**

This theme shows up often in proverbs because it is an intimidating reverence of God that prompts one to pursue wisdom and it is the beginning of wisdom (1:7; 9:10). One who fears the LORD is promised three things in this verse: 1) Life (Hebrew "lives" full or complete life); 2) Satisfaction (abundant satisfaction); 3) Non-visitation of evil (not any God-sanctioned trouble or misfortune).