

Message #125

Proverbs 29:7-14

A WISE PERSON OR A FOOL MAY BE DETERMINED BY HOW HE REACTS TO VARIOUS SITUATIONS OF LIFE.**REACTION #1** – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s reaction to the poor. **29:7**

The subject of the “poor” may be spotted in this verse, also in **verse 13** and again in **verse 14**. The word “poor” in this verse and **verse 14** is “dalim,” which refers to one who is very feeble, thin, weak, and lean, one who is very low (BDB, p. 195). This one has very little and is just trying to survive. The word in verse 13 is “roosh,” which speaks of poverty to the point of being very hungry (BDB, pp. 930-931). A righteous wise person will do everything he can to understand the plight of the poor, but the wicked fool doesn’t care.

REACTION #2 – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s reaction concerning wrath. **29:8**

The word “scorner” refers to one who mocks what is good and upright. This kind of person is always stirring up trouble. Wise people are peacemakers, not troublemakers.

REACTION #3 – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s reaction concerning wrath. **29:9**

Wise people distance themselves from arguments with fools because they realize that to contend (possible legal court issues) with a fool is a no-win situation!

REACTION #4 – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s reaction to the righteous. **29:10**

A “bloodshed” person literally kills people physically and may be applied spiritually. One who will kill others hates one upright, whereas the righteous desires to protect the upright.

REACTION #5 – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s reaction to stormy situations. **29:11**

The verb “holds back” literally means to still the storm, to quiet the storm—some heated, stormy, hot situation is in this context. The fool immediately explodes, the wise person is controlled.

REACTION #6 – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s reaction to lies. **29:12**

In a wise society honesty reigns, but in a foolish society dishonesty is king.

REACTION #7 – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s recognition of God’s sovereignty.
29:13

Wise people know all life, existences, social classes and successes are under the sovereign eye and care of God. All people will be loved and cared for equally in a wise society.

REACTION #8 – Wisdom or folly determined by one’s reaction to the poor. **29:14**

A wise society is fair with the poor and does not neglect their needs.