

Hidden Hills Sovereign Grace Baptist Church

Wednesday Sermon

Date: March 4, 2020

Text: Proverbs 3:1-12

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 3:1-12

Subject: Wisdom from Proverbs 3

Proverbs 3:1-2 (KJV) *My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: 2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.*

It has become more and more evident to this old preacher that the Proverbs were given us to help with practical every-day living and dealing with others. ***My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:*** -- Let us remember, as gentile believers, that we were never given the Ten Commandments as a rule of life. The Ten Commandments were the summary of the covenant God gave to Israel. Each and every one of those ten commandments are re-expressed in the New Covenant, with the single exception of the 4th one concerning the Sabbath. Therefore, they are all given us as the commandments of the LORD in the New Testament churches. The New Testament is referred to as the "perfect law of liberty" by the Apostle James. Let us not forget them – but keep the LORD's commandments.

For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee: -- Which of us would not want these precious gifts from God as a consequence of keeping his commandments in our hearts and minds?

Proverbs 3:3 (KJV) *Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: 4 So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.*

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: -- Mercy and truth! Keep them always! Wear them as a chain about your neck. Keep them in your heart – the place where you think, reason, purpose, feel, and will. Seek the truth always – and always be ready to extend mercy. Mercy is that kindness bestowed upon another which he does not deserve. He deserves justice – but mercy

Psalm 85:10 (KJV) *Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*

“I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice.”

— **Abraham Lincoln**

So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. – God’s wonderful promise! In keeping mercy and truth we find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Praise the LORD!

Proverbs 3:5 (KJV) *Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. 7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.*

There is no greater enemy to the godly life and Christian walk, and the fear of God in the heart, than a person’s conceit about his own wisdom. Those that believe in their own learning and earthly wisdom always think it below them, and belittling to them, to direct their ways in God’s words.

Job 28:28 (KJV) *And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.*

Proverbs 3:8 (KJV) *It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.*

The prudence, temperance, and sobriety, the calmness and composure of mind, and the controlling of the appetites and passions, which God's word teaches, tend very much not only to the health of the soul, but to the good of the body. Envy is the rottenness of the bones; the sorrow of the world dries them; but hope and joy in God are marrow to them.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (KJV) *Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.*

Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: -- Honor means to have high esteem, respect, or reverence toward. Honor is a verb which means we do something. Our substance is our wealth; our riches. Our increase is our income – that wealth which comes to us. Firstfruits is just what the words suggests – the first. In our vernacular, it means to give of our substance and the first of our income that comes to us – whether that which we grow and sell or that which comes to us through labor or inheritance. So, what is the promise of God if we do this?

So, shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. – We don't have barns and wine presses, but the idea is clearly understood. Our storehouse, our cabinet, will have plenty.

Proverbs 3:11-12 (KJV) *My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: 12 For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.*

My son, despise not (abhor, reject, or let become loathsome) ***the chastening*** (instruction, chastening, discipline) ***of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: --***

For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth. – The LORD corrects those he loves. He has set his everlasting love on you. Does the LORD chasten everyone? No, He chastens those he loves. What conclusion do you draw from this? There are some the LORD does not love. He doesn't love everyone. Thank God for his chastening hand on us – blessed proof of His love to us!

Job 21:7-16 (KJV) *Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? 8 Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes. 9 Their houses are safe from fear, **neither is the rod of God upon them.** 10 Their bull gendereth, and faileth not; their cow calveth, and casteth not her calf. 11 They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. 12 They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. 13 They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. 14 Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. 15 What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him? 16 Lo, their good is not in their hand: the counsel of the wicked is far from me.*

Hebrews 12:4-16 (KJV) *Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. 5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8 But if ye be without chastisement,*

whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. 11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. 12 Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; 13 And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. 14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; 16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.