

## Message #71

## Proverbs 19:1-7

**GOD'S WISE WAY OF LIFE IS TOTALLY OPPOSITE OF MAN'S FOOLISH WAY OF LIFE AND THOSE WHO ARE WISE MAKE ADJUSTMENTS AND LIVE WISELY.****TEACHING #1 – Poor integrity is better than perverse wealth. 19:1**

The word “poor” is not a word that speaks of dishonorable poverty, but one needy through no fault of his own. The word “integrity” speaks of one who is whole or complete. The word “perverse” speaks of speech that is twisted, perverted, and deceitful. From God’s perspective, it is far better to have very little and be complete than to be a fool who has much and twists his speech.

**TEACHING #2 – Ignorant zeal leads to foolish sin. 19:2**

The Hebrew word “sin” or “err” means to miss the mark, by not reaching the goal. Wise people look and learn before they leap.

**TEACHING #3 – A man who makes foolish decisions will tend to blame God. 19:3**

Notice the thing that causes a man to walk in a perverted or subverted way is his own foolishness; but when he finds himself all twisted up in some mess, he gets angry at God. Merrill Unger calls this verse “Blaming the Lord for the outcome of one’s own stupidity.” Derek Kidner calls this verse “Always God’s Fault.”

**TEACHING #4 – Man’s wealth or poverty tends to determine social associations. 19:4**

People have an ungodly tendency to gravitate to the rich crowd and write off the poor. People with lots of riches will discover they are surrounded by a multitude of companions. The motivation is not Biblical or right; it is greed. However, for the poor person it is not true—people abandon him. We must never base friendships on what a person has or doesn’t have.

**TEACHING #5 – One who is deceptive will eventually be punished. 19:5**

The words “unpunished” and “not escape” mean one who lives deceptively will never be granted a pardon, and will not ever escape or slip away—judgment is certain.

**TEACHING #6 – One with generosity will have many friends. 19:6**

This proverb teaches that anyone can buy friends, but one with true friends is rich.

**TEACHING #7 – One who is poor will have no friends. 19:7**

This proverb teaches the harsh reality of life—money talks with most all people.