

Message #78

Proverbs 20:12-16

Finding a person who will not use “diverse weights” when weighing himself is very rare.

GOD’S WISDOM TOUCHES ALL AREAS OF LIFE AND THOSE WHO ARE WISE LISTEN TO IT, LEARN IT AND LIVE IT.

TOPIC #1 – God’s wisdom created man’s senses. **20:12**

The verb “has made” means God is the One who designed, produced and made the object. He is the One who designed the entire system of hearing and seeing. The Bible has much to say about the eyes and ears:

- 1) God is the One who designed those who can hear and see. **20:12**
- 2) God is the One who designed those who cannot hear and see. Ex. 4:11
- 3) God says people are responsible for what they hear and see. Is. 33:15
- 4) God says he knows all things that people hear and see. Ps. 94:9

Although this verse pertains to the physical senses, it also applies to the spiritual (Matt. 13:13-14; Heb. 6:3).

TOPIC #2 – God’s wisdom is not lazy. **20:13**

Many times in Proverbs laziness is compared to sleep (6:8-10; 10:5; 19:15; 23:21). The word “love” is a word that means to make something the primary passion in life. Solomon’s point is one whose primary passion in life is sleep will discover he will be poor. Solomon challenges the sleeper to wake up.

TOPIC #3 – God’s wisdom is honest. **20:14**

The word “bad” is one that means the buyer is claiming the deal and merchandise is “no good.” It is probably an attempt to get the price lowered by telling the seller that the deal is no good. You will notice that after the buyer makes the purchase and goes away from the seller, he starts bragging about the deal he got. It is a foolish way to do business.

TOPIC #4 – God’s wisdom is a valuable rarity. **20:15**

Most people consider the most valuable thing as gold and jewels; but according to God, the most valuable thing is Biblical knowledge. When one is at a level of understanding the things of God and communicating the things of God, one is very precious to God.

TOPIC #5 – God’s wisdom requires owed payments. **20:16**

What is described here is a person who becomes a surety, which is he assumes the debt of another person. In this case, a Jewish person becomes a surety for someone who is not Jewish. Becoming a surety for anyone is not the mark of wisdom (11:15; 17:18; **20:16**; 22:26; 27:13) and one who should immediately attempt to get out of it. In this proverb, what is taught is that a Jew who becomes a surety for a stranger needs to learn a good lesson so the lender should demand payment. God’s wisdom requires payments for stupid decisions.