

“Insights into Glorifying God in Every Detail of Life”

Proverbs 12:10-18

August 10, 2022

The titles of the individual proverbs are adapted from *The Wisdom of Proverbs* by Bob Beasley

1. Treat Animals with Kindness – 10

“Beast” – refers to any 4-footed domesticated animal

God has compassion for animals and in the Law He commanded Israel to share His Sabbath with them. Providing for the needs of a working ox functions in the law as a proverb for taking care of those who serve you – Deuteronomy 25:4; 1 Corinthians 9:9-10

The character of a person is seen in the way they treat what God has placed under their care, even animals.

“When God placed animals under man’s dominion, this was a stewardship, not a license for cruelty. God has a purpose for every creature, even though man can use them for food, clothing, etc. They should be respected as creatures of God.” Henry Morris, *The Remarkable Wisdom of Solomon*”

2. Be Diligent in Your Work and Don’t Seek Get Rich Quick Schemes – 11

“Works his land” – applies to other occupations in those days and also to occupations today

“Worthless pursuits” – delusions or fantasies

3. Bear Fruit That Comes from Christ Alone – 12

“Covets the spoil of evildoers” – they don’t know that the abundant life isn’t found in the abundance of things & money

“Root of righteousness” – John 15

The branches BEAR the fruit, but it’s the roots that PRODUCE the fruit

The branch depends on being attached to the root to produce and then bear fruit.

4. Seek the Rewards of Righteousness – 13-14

“The transgression of his lips” – this is a universal problem because we are all born liars

Lying is one of the things that the Lord hates – Proverbs 6:16-19

God will bring judgment on sinning with words just as surely as sinning with our hands, etc. Matthew 12:36-37

“Satisfied with good” – “good” is all that God brings into his life

5. Be Willing to Be Wrong – 15

“Fool” – he is stubborn in his refusal to receive counsel. He is convinced he is right and he’s not open to evidence that he is wrong. He is unteachable.

The Rich Young Ruler

“Listen to advice” – a person can be saved from the consequences of his wrong ideas and his good ideas can be sharpened and thus they wind up benefitting him.

- Moses, who had spoken face to face with God, was willing to listen to his father-in-law and take his advice – Exodus 18:14-24
- David took advice from a woman and avoided a disaster – 1 Samuel 25:23-32
- Apollos was teachable – Acts 18:24-28

6. Respond to Others in Godliness -16

“Vexation” – anger

Anytime we allow anger to control us we are sinning

In the process of sanctification, we see our anger changed:

- To love the person who made us angry
- To thanking God for the circumstances that made us angry

“Known at once” – our wisdom or foolishness is proven the instant something that could make us angry comes our way.

“Ignores an insult” – means he doesn’t give immediate expression to it, bringing his emotions under control of his thinking – 1 Peter 4:8

Proverbs 29:11

7. Speak with an Honest Tongue – 17

“Speaks” – literally “breathes out” – telling the truth is as natural as breathing

Our need to speak the truth is rooted in God’s character

8. Speak with a Kind Tongue – 18

“Rash words” – when we speak like this we wound and even kill relationships

Ephesians 4:29 gives us God’s advice for our tongue