

## Proverbs 21:1-29 – The Joy of the Just in Doing Justice

A: **God is Sovereign:** 1 -The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

B: **God writes the laws and weighs the heart:** 2 -Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts. (3) -To do righteousness and justice Is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

C: **The law is about loving God and following in his footsteps** 4 -A haughty look, a proud heart, And the plowing of the wicked are sin.

D: **God created man to labor and blesses labor** 5 -The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, But those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty.

E: **God is Truth & God is Righteous. Those who practice otherwise hate God and love death.** 6 -Getting treasures by a lying tongue Is the fleeting fantasy of those who seek death. (7) -The violence of the wicked will destroy them, Because they refuse to do justice.

F: **Guilty people go in a crooked way. Repentance brings honor.** 8 -The way of a guilty man is perverse; But as for the pure, his work is right.

G: **God's Blessing: peaceful wife, oil, & wine** 9 -Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

H: **The wicked are unwilling to help their neighbor. God sees and avenges them.** 10 -The soul of the wicked desires evil; His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes. (11) -When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise; But when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge. (12) -The righteous God wisely considers the house of the wicked, Overthrowing the wicked for their wickedness.

J: **Putting pleasure over justice brings poverty and abandonment upon oneself** 13 -Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor Will also cry himself and not be heard. (14) -A gift in secret pacifies anger, And a bribe behind the back, strong wrath.

15 -**It is a joy for the just to do justice**, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity. (16) -A man who wanders from the way of understanding Will rest in the assembly of the dead.

J': 17 -He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

H': 18 -The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, And the unfaithful for the upright.

G': 19 -Better to dwell in the wilderness, Than with a contentious and angry woman. (20) -There is desirable treasure, And oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man squanders it.

F': 21 -He who follows righteousness and mercy Finds life, righteousness and honor. (22) -A wise man scales the city of the mighty, And brings down the trusted stronghold.

E': 23 -Whoever guards his mouth and tongue Keeps his soul from troubles. (24) -A proud and haughty man—"Scoffer" is his name; He acts with arrogant pride.

D': 25 -The desire of the lazy man kills him, For his hands refuse to labor. (26) -He covets greedily all day long, But the righteous gives and does not spare.

C': 27 -The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; How much more when he brings it with wicked intent! (28) -A false witness shall perish, But the man who hears him will speak endlessly. (29) -A wicked man hardens his face, But as for the upright, he establishes his way.

B': 30 -There is no wisdom or understanding Or counsel against the LORD.

A': 31 -The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the LORD.