

## Topics in Proverbs

### I. Wisdom's First Steps - The Fear of the Lord - Pt 3

A. Involves a Subject

B. Involves an Object

C. The Content of the Fear of the Lord

4. As In The Old, So In The New

a. Practically, the fear of the Lord is a humble conviction of our sin, taking to heart the word of God, and submitting ourselves to Him as Lord and Savior.

i. the Word of God is the focus of the fear of the Lord

ii. Recognizing, realizing, and resting are the elements of the fear of the Lord

- Seeing and hearing the Word of the Lord

- Seeing the relevance and truth of its revelation of Him and His will

- Resting our weight upon the Word of God in such a way that a changed life is the result

b. From a NT perspective, the above would be equated with believing on the Lord Jesus Christ

i. Fear or Faith equally describe what a lost rebellious sinner need to repent and embrace

- Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. - Ro 10:17

- The fear of the Lord came through hearing the Word of the Lord

ii. The Everlasting Gospel - Rev 14:6-7

- "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come

- worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

D. The Opposites of the Fear of the Lord

1. Evil

a. Pr 3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

i. Hebrew grammar stresses not being wise in your own eyes - it is not talking about making a mistake

ii. The arrogant person does not hesitate at evil if it serves his own ends

b. Pr 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

i. Lady Wisdom speaking the essence of the fear of the Lord

ii. The truly godly person is concerned with immorality, crime, bad doctrine, heresy, hypocrisy teaching

iii. It is not harsh, judgmental, unloving to hate evil.

iv. Indifference and moral numbness is not an option

v. Real wisdom is demonstrated in how we communicate a passion for God's glory and truth - Jo 2:17; 8:12

2. Conceit

a. Value promote desire - Pr 1:7

i. Line A - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,

ii. Line B - But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

- we do not pray to the departed saints or Mary b/c we don't value their possible input, those who do not see value in God's word - Isa 8:19-20
- we do pray to Christ as God, our Great High Priest and Mediator b/c we value what God says about the subject - Col 2:9; 1 Tim 2:5; Heb 4:14-16

b. Point Made - Pr 3:7

- i. Line A - Do not be wise in your own eyes; - A warning about be a self-impressed person
- ii. Line B - Fear the LORD and depart from evil. - Gives the antidote

3. Envy of man - Pr 23:17-18

a. Line A - Do not let your heart envy sinners,

- i. tempting to look at outward prosperity, success, or the fun had by others and think, why do I have to be godly?
- ii. Psa 73 speaks of getting ones eyes in the wrong place

b. Line B - But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day - these struggles show the constant need to have God in His rightful place in one's heart

c. Line C - For surely there is a hereafter, And your hope will not be cut off. - An eternal perspective is needed - Lk 12:16-20

E. The Wrong Side of the Equation - The Fool

1. Who He Is

- a. *'eviyil* - dense, silly, fool(-ish) (man). May come from a word meaning to grow thick, thick-headed,
- b. not dealing w/ intellect, he is morally and spiritually insensitive
  - i. mocks at sin - Pro 14:9
  - ii. Not quick to learn - 27:22
  - iii. Maybe worse than the simple or stupid, but better than the fool and scoffer

2. What he Does

- a. *buwz* - disrespect, belittle, despise, to hold as insignificant - a physical/emotional response like when you have to eat something you don't like
- b. Used Pr 6:30; 11:12; 23:9

3. Why He Does It

- a. He does not know what is good for him - Pro 1:7; 10:21
- b. He has a mouth problem - Pr 10:8,14; 12:16; 17:28
- c. He is stubborn - Pr 12:15; 15:5; 27:22

4. His End

- a. Debt, running up his bill - Pro 13:13
  - i. Mistakenly thinks God's lack of action is consent - Ps 50 21; Ro 2:4
  - ii. Wisdom laughs at the disaster that comes on the one that does not receive her - Pr 1:20-33
- b. Jesus' evaluation - Mt 7:24-27; Jo 12:48