

Message #106

Proverbs 25:15-22

**GOD'S WISDOM IS PRACTICAL AND IS TO BE PRACTICALLY APPLIED IN ALL SITUATIONS OF LIFE AND THOSE WHO DO THIS WILL EXPERIENCE THE BLESSINGS OF GOD.**

**PRACTICAL WISDOM TOPIC #1 – Wisdom knows how to sway leadership. 25:15**

The word “forbearance” describes one who is very slow to flare the nostrils. The words “soft tongue” describes speech that is tender, delicate and soft. It is not hard or harsh. The verb “persuaded” is a Pual stem verb meaning that a leader will passively allow himself to be open to the opinions or position of one who is functioning in this manner. The image of “breaks the bone” is an image that describes the fact that even the strongest of things may be broken. No matter how strong the opinion or position of a leader, by slow, soft persistent speech, incredible victories may be secured.

**PRACTICAL WISDOM TOPIC #2 – Wisdom knows when to say no. 25:16**

The wisdom of God is to be implemented even when eating. There is a critical fine line between what is good and healthy and what is overboard and sickening. No matter what the issue—coffee, food, athletics—moderation is the mark of wisdom.

**PRACTICAL WISDOM TOPIC #3 – Wisdom knows when to go home. 25:17**

The word “rare” means to make rare. A wise person will make himself rare in visits to his neighbor's home. He will not overextend himself or misuse the hospitality of his neighbor. Two reasons: 1) Your neighbor will get fed-up; 2) Your neighbor will become your enemy.

**PRACTICAL WISDOM TOPIC #4 – Wisdom knows the devastation of coloring truth. 25:18**

The words “false witness” is a Hebrew word that refers to the coloring of truth. Three weapons describe the impact of false witness: like a club, like a sword, like a sharp arrow. All three of these weapons can hurt, maim or kill. One who colors truth bruises others, beats others down, stabs them, wounds them, pierces them and cuts them. The results are totally devastating. Those who color truth are fools.

**PRACTICAL WISDOM TOPIC #5 – Wisdom knows in whom to place confidence. 25:19**

The word “faithless” refers to a fraud, one who is covering or hiding. When one trusts in an unfaithful person, the end result will be problems, pain, and perhaps permanent crippling.

**PRACTICAL WISDOM TOPIC #6 – Wisdom properly responds to emotional situations. 25:20**

A wise person does not sing songs to a person who has a heavy heart. This kind of response only makes matters more miserable and make the relationship frigid.

**PRACTICAL WISDOM TOPIC #7 – Wisdom impacts enemies by kindness. 25:21-22**

Acts of kindness toward enemies were specifically demanded by O.T. law (Ex. 23:4-5). Heap coals may refer to an act of kindness of providing fire or it may mean the enemy will eventually repent as one who repented often carried a pan of coals as a sign of repentance.