

Message #122

Proverbs 28:23-28

Proverbs is a book that claims it can make one wise (1:2-6).

WISE PEOPLE APPLY THE WORD OF GOD TO EVERYDAY LIFE AS IT RELATES TO OTHER PEOPLE.

WISDOM THEME #1 – A wise person realizes a rebuke is more valuable than flattery. **28:23**

The word “rebuke” is one that means to verbally contradict by showing right from wrong. The point being it is far better to show God’s right way as opposed to man’s wrong way. One who does this to a wise person will discover he will eventually be viewed more favorably than the one who flattered.

WISDOM THEME #2 – A wise person does not condone sin against parents. **28:24**

The word “rob” means to take something by force. Of all the sins of stealing a person may commit, the most terrible of all is to steal from one’s own parents.

WISDOM THEME #3 – A wise person is not a strife-stirrer, but a God truster. **28:25**

The word “arrogant” means to be inflated, broad and wide. This person stirs up strife and his motive is that he wants to prosper, to get rich. Wise people do not stir up strife, but put their confidence in the Lord, and they are the ones who ultimately prosper at a great level.

WISDOM THEME #4 – A wise person is not a self-stirrer, but a Scripture obeyer. **28:26**

Dr. Alden said, a “wise man knows better than to trust himself, knowing his vision is limited by fallibility and sin.” A wise man is directed by God’s Word, not his own thinking or feelings.

WISDOM THEME #5 – A wise person is generous to the poor, not stingy with the poor. **28:27**

Wise people do what they can do to help those poor, but a fool tries to hide from this responsibility and will discover that his life is filled with many bad calamities.

WISDOM THEME #6 – A wise person knows righteousness increases when wicked people decrease. **28:28**

This proverb is the antithesis of 28:12—a wise society will do everything it can to see that wicked leadership does not rise to power and righteous leadership stays in power. The more wickedness decreases, the more righteousness increases and the more wickedness increases, the more righteousness decreases.