

Proverb 23

- I. Proper _____ when with important people: Vs 1-3
- A. Remember who you are dining with, and that they have _____ the meal that is before you 1 *"When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, Consider diligently what is before thee:"*
 - B. Control your desire for food. It is more important to maintain self-control than to fill your stomach 2 *"And put a knife to thy throat, If thou be a man given to appetite."*
 - C. Don't become _____ or drawn in by the elegance or "show" of the ruler's dwelling. It only lasts as long as he is ruler. The circumstances behind the glamour of his position of authority can be deceptive to the eyes. 3 *"Be not desirous of his dainties: For they are deceitful meat."*
- II. Value that which is _____ not that which is temporary: Vs 4-8
- A. Don't devote your life to becoming _____. To do so stop listening to your own thoughts and seek godly counsel about life. 4 *"Labor not to be rich: Cease from thine own wisdom."*
 1. Those seeming riches do not last _____ 5a *"Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not?"*
 2. Wealth is probably the _____ thing to keep, it can disappear without one being able to stop it. 5b *"For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away as an eagle toward heaven."*
 - B. Avoid those who are evil no matter what they use to _____ you into their web of evil 6 *"Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, Neither desire thou his dainty meats:"*
 1. His evil may not be obvious on the outside, but it is well planted in his _____ 7a *"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:"*
 2. He has already conceived a plan for evil in his heart toward you as he shows you _____ 7b *"Eat and drink, saith he to thee; But his heart is not with thee."*
 3. Ultimately you will find out too late that you are the victim and your loss will be far greater than the _____. 8 *"The morsel which thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, And lose thy sweet words."*
- III. You are _____ your breath trying to give counsel or reason with a person who has set their heart against God and His principles—a fool 9 *"Speak not in the ears of a fool: For he will despise the wisdom of thy words."*
- IV. Don't try to gain by _____ or by taking advantage of those who are helpless 10 *"Remove not the old landmark; And enter not into the fields of the fatherless:"*
- A. To do so is to go up _____ God 11a *"For their redeemer is mighty;"*
 - B. The end result will be to pay _____ for your deception 11b *"He shall plead their cause with thee."*
- V. An admonition to listen to godly instruction and make _____ in one's personal life 12 *"Apply thine heart unto instruction, And thine ears to the words of knowledge."*
- A. Instruction concerning _____ discipline of children 13 *"Withhold not correction from the child: For if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die." 14 "Thou shalt beat him with the rod, And shalt deliver his soul from hell."*
 1. The punishment should fit the _____
 2. Some offences require severe but _____ administered punishment
 3. Following God's guideline, even though it is not _____ to the parent results in deliverance of the child from _____ destruction

- B. Encouragement and instruction from a caring, loving father to his child 15 *"My son, if thine heart be wise, My heart shall rejoice, even mine. 16 "Yea, my reins shall rejoice, When thy lips speak right things."*
1. The father emphasizes "wise" and "right things". These always are wise and right as _____ by the Word of God.
 2. The father rejoices in seeing the child whom he has taught and disciplined _____ the godly standard he has instilled in the adult child during his childhood.
 3. Again the father gives a gentle _____ of what he has taught the son concerning evil and its opposite. 17 *"Let not thine heart envy sinners: But be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long."* 18 *"For surely there is an end; And thine expectation shall not be cut off."*
- C. The instruction becomes more specific so that the son will be warned against the two major evil allurements of the world that go after _____ in their lifetime 19 *"Hear thou, my son, and be wise, And guide thine heart in the way."*
1. Those who allow alcoholic beverages to _____ them 20 *"Be not among winebibbers; Among riotous eaters of flesh:"*
 - a. Their use of alcohol in this way will ultimately destroy their future _____ and accomplishments 21 *"For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: And drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags."*
 - b. The drunkard is a _____ concerning his alcohol
 2. Allowing the eyes to _____ the sexual appetite 27 *"For a whore is a deep ditch; And a strange woman is a narrow pit. 28 She also lieth in wait as for a prey, And increaseth the transgressors among men."*
 3. A descriptive picture is painted by the father for the child to visualize 29 *"Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes? 30 They that tarry long at the wine; They that go to seek mixed wine. 31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, When it giveth his colour in the cup, When it moveth itself aright. 32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, And stingeth like an adder. 33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, And thine heart shall utter perverse things. 34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down fin the midst of the sea, Or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. 35 They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; They have beaten me, and iI felt it not: When shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.*
- D. The _____ results that come from listening to and following godly counsel. 22 *Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, And despise not thy mother when she is old. 23 Buy the truth, and sell it not; Also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding. 24 The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: And he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him. 25 Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, And she that bare thee shall rejoice. 26 My son, give me thine heart, And let thine eyes observe my ways.*