



Pearls in Proverbs

Lesson #3

Jim Hoffman

Psalm 25

- 1) Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.
- 7) Remember not the sins of my youth.
- 14) The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him.
- 20) O keep my soul, and deliver me:
- 2) O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Your comments on
Chapters 7-9

What say you?

Working Definitions of some Key Words

- Wisdom –
 - Looking at *life* from God's point of view
 - *What* to do in life.
- Knowledge –
 - Facts and information about *life*
 - *How* to do what I ought to do.
- Understanding –
 - To be able to sort out the issues of *life*
 - *Why* I should do what I ought to.

Proverbs 7: 1-5

Always good advice

- Stay focused on the small things, and a call to memorize scripture. (Verse #1)
- Stay close to the Word. (Deut 6:4-9)
 - Guard them as the apple of your eye
 - Bind them on your fingers
 - Write them on your heart. (Heb 10:16)
 - Treat the Word of God like a family member

Proverbs 7: 6-23

The drama of seduction

- **The victim – verses 6-9**
 - Young, alone, and in the dark
- **The huntress – verses 10-12**
 - Seductive dress, ill intentions, on the hunt
- **The tactics – verses 13-21**
 - She makes the 1st move, flatters him, paints a mental image for him
- **The kill – verses 22-23**
 - He steps into the trap, it closes, and he has been had.

Proverbs 7: 24-27

The epilogue

- In the end, we still all get to choose.
- Yes, someone may try to seduce us, but no one forces us to step into adultery.
- Our problem here is the same as the problem we have with resisting all kinds of sin; we must say 'no'.
(I Cor 10:13)
- Many have fallen prey to adultery and we need to constantly stay on guard.

Proverbs 8:1-5

Wisdom's Call

- Throughout chapter 8 wisdom personified.
- Just as the Holy Spirit calls all men to repentance, so the Lord calls all to live wisely.
- It is as though the call to right living is everywhere. If we do not live right, no one will ever be able say "I didn't know".

Proverbs 8:6-13

What is the person, Wisdom, like?

- Wisdom speaks words of truth. (7)
- Wisdom speaks against evil.
- Wisdom's words make sense to those who will hear them. (9)
- Wisdom builds close relationships with other good people. (12)
- Wisdom hates evil, pride, and arrogance. (13)
- How do we stack up?

Proverbs 8:14-21

Wisdom's Rewards

- Wisdom's rewards are sometimes material.
 - King's reign (15)
 - Ruler's make laws (15)
 - Princes govern (16)
 - Riches, honor, wealth, prosperity, Etc ..
- And sometimes they are spiritual.
 - “my fruit is better than gold, and what I yield surpasses silver” (19)

Proverbs 8:17

Highlight Verse

- “I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.”
 - God loves all, but especially those who love Him back.
 - God is not in the hiding business; He makes it clear throughout the scriptures that He wants to be known by us.
 - Seek and ye shall find, draw close to Me and I will draw close to you, etc....

Proverbs 8: 22-31

Wisdom's relationship to creation.

- Wisdom is older than the universe and fundamental to it.
- If God exercised wisdom in creation, how much more do we need wisdom in our daily affairs?
- Wisdom is said to have 'been brought forth' and twice 'given birth' before any of His creative works.
- Conclusion; God made wisdom available to man before He made man.

Proverbs 8: 32-36

Listen up and live.

- There are blessings pronounced for those who listen and obey wisdom's leadings.
- To find and fully engage in wisdom is to have life to it's fullest. (looking at life from God's point of view)
Any other life style is a cheap substitute. (John 10:10)
- Three outcomes;
 - Find wisdom and really live!
 - Ignore wisdom and you harm yourself.
 - Hate wisdom and you will die.

Proverbs 9: 1-6

The Feast of Wisdom

- Wisdom's house is a place of plenty with food and drink and servants in abundance.
- The seven pillars? Many have offered explanations of what these might mean, but I think one thing is clear; it is a house like that perfect (7) heavenly mansion.
- Everything has been prepared for the invited guests.
(John 14:1-3)

Proverbs 9: 1-6

The Feast of Wisdom

- Notice the urgency of the invitations;
 - She calls
 - Come eat my food
 - Come in here
 - ('Come' is the message of the entire Bible)
- Notice who is invited;
 - The simple and those who lack judgment
 - 'Not many mighty, not many noble' I Cor 1:26

Proverbs 9: 1-6

The Feast of Wisdom

- Verse #6 is key because it becomes clear that the call is not just to a feast, but to a new way of life.
 - Leave one way (your foolish ways)
 - Walk in a new way (understanding)
 - Acts 20:21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. NKJV

Proverbs 9: 7-12

Remain teachable and have hope.

- Verse 7 and 8 a, warn us of casting our pearls before swine.
- There is little desire on the part of the lost man to improve on what he is in character.
- On the other hand, the mark of maturing believer is that he remains teachable. He understands that 'reproofs of instruction are the way of life'.

Proverbs 9: 7-12

Remain teachable and have hope.

- Verse #12 is key here
- Reap what you sow
- You are what you eat
- As a man thinks in his heart, so is he
- You are what your character says you are.

Proverbs 9: 13-18

The Feast of Folly

- Just as the chapter began with (6) verses about the feast of wisdom the chapter ends with (6) verses to the contrary.
- Just as lady wisdom was earnest in her invitation so lady folly is as well.
 - She is loud
 - She calls out to passersby
 - She calls to the simple

Proverbs 9: 13-18

The Feast of Folly

- Notice that verses #4 and #16 are identical.
 - They are competing for the attention of the same crowd.
 - Do not ever be surprised to find out that the counterfeit message has a familiar ring.
 - Galatians 1:6-7

Proverbs 9: 13-18

The Feast of Folly

- Verse #15 is a picture of the great multitude of humanity marching by us to their death.
- While Lady wisdom prepared her food and drink, Lady Folly stole what she has to offer.
- While Lady Wisdom offers a new life, Lady Folly offers the same old death.
- The promise of verse #17 is sweet and delicious, but the real deal is death and destruction.

Children

- [5:16](#) Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets.
- [5:18](#) Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.
- [10:1](#) The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.
- [13:22](#) A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.
- [14:26](#) In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.
- [17:6](#) Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.
- [30:17](#) The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

Children, Training

- **4:1** Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.
- **4:2** For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law
- **4:3** For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.
- **4:4** He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.
- **13:24** He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes
- **19:18** Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.
- **22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
- **22:15** Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.
- **23:13** Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.
- **23:14** Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.
- **29:15** The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. **29:17** Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.

Questions / Comments