

PROVERBS 17 - Wise Sayings of Solomon!

1/25/25 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

Pro 17:1 Better is a dry morsel with quietness, Than a house full of feasting with strife.

- **Speaking of the beauty, and the glory, of a household that is united.** A household where there is peace, there is love. Better to be poor, have nothing as far as worldly goods are concerned, but have love, a loving household. Just a dry morsel, not even any soup to dip it in, with peace, quietness, than to have a house full of feasting with strife.

Pro 17:2 A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame, And will share an inheritance among the brothers.

- **So, the encouragement for the servant to exercise wisdom.** Many times, the servants became as a part of the family. They were often tutors for the children, A lot of times the natural children brought heartache, brought sorrow, and the wise servant was really a greater blessing than some of the unruly children. The wise servant may share in the inheritance of the family with the brothers.

Pro 17:3 The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, But the LORD tests the hearts.

- **The refining pot and furnace were used to purify the gold or the silver.** They would use the refining pot to heat the silver to get out the impurities. The same with the furnace for the gold. Even as God puts us through the fires many times, to burn out the impurities in our hearts. It is God's desire to remove from our lives those things that are destructive.

Pro 17:4 An evildoer gives heed to false lips; A liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue.

- **It's amazing how you can lose your sense of discernment when you turn away from God.** It's amazing what people believe once they have rejected the idea of God. Intelligent people do the most stupid things once they have rejected the truth of God. Paul tells us that, "Because they did not have the love of the truth in their hearts, God gives them over to a delusion, that they'll believe a lie, rather than the truth."

Pro 17:5 He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker; He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.

- **Solomon, with all of his wealth, was aware of how God looked out after the poor.** It is interesting that the bible tells us that God is concerned for the poor, He wants us to have a concern for the poor, not to just ignore and neglect. So here, if you mock the poor, you're reproaching your maker.
- **and he that is glad at calamities shall not be unpunished.** I have a hard one, time with that one. Cause I have to admit that there are times when I am glad at calamities, and, and just my perverse nature.

Pro 17:6 Children's children are the crown of old men, And the glory of children is their father.

- **What a blessing, what a joy, what a delight grandchildren are!** *and the glory of children are their fathers.* What a great heritage a godly father is. What a blessing it is to grow up in a Christian home.

Pro 17:7 Excellent speech is not becoming to a fool, Much less lying lips to a prince.

- **There are two things that are inconsistent.** That's a profound speech from a fool, or, and it's just as inconsistent for a prince to be uttering lies. They are both out of place.

Pro 17:8 A present is a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor; Wherever he turns, he prospers.

- An interesting thing about a precious stone that has been cut, say a diamond, it has the many facets, and however you turn it, you get the sparkles, you get the twinkle out of it. A gift is like a precious stone in the eyes of him that has it.

Pro 17:9 He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.

- **Oh God help us! The Bible says that, "love covers a multitude of sins."** Now you talk about grandchildren being the crown of old men! You know, they're not really naughty, they're cute.
- **But he who repeats a matter separates friends. Better not to say anything,** just in love, overlook it. Rather than going around and saying, "Did you know what he did? How we can split people. Or, how we can bring people together. Just in love, just pass it over

Pro 17:10 Rebuke is more effective for a wise man Than a hundred blows on a fool.

- **Solomon really didn't give much hope for fools.** All the way through, Solomon is showing how that a wise person will accept reproof, or rebuke. It is the fool that hates instruction. So, the wisdom of listening to other people, the things that you can gain from constructive criticism.

Pro 17:11 An evil man seeks only rebellion; Therefore a cruel messenger will be sent against him.

- **We must be careful in our attitudes towards God when we find ourselves at sorts** with the command of God. If I find myself against the command of God, it is important that I not become rebellious against God, and His commands. Rebellion. Be careful of rebellion, it's evidence of an evil man. The cruel messenger I believe is Satan, it comes against you, takes over your life, and it's a spirit that can take control of your life. This one, again as I say, Solomon didn't have much regard for the fool.

Pro 17:12 Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, Rather than a fool in his folly.

- **You will be safer meeting a bear that's just been robbed of its cubs,** than meeting up with a fool in his folly!

Pro 17:13 Whoever rewards evil for good, Evil will not depart from his house.

- **Have you ever had that happen to you?** I've had that happen to me. You do something good, and, and, and evil is returned, but, "whoso rewards evil for good." We are to bless those that curse us, pray for those who spitefully use us. We're to reward evil with good. The other way around, rewarding evil for good, that's, you're gonna get in a trap that you can't get out of it.

Pro 17:14 The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.

- **The beginning of strife is like letting out a little channel of water,** but before long, that whole rush is going to just overwhelm you. Therefore, stop contention before it starts. don't meddle with it. There is a tendency in people to meddle around with things that they have no business meddling with. Too many people are meddling around with things that they have no business meddling with. Relationships that they shouldn't be meddling with. Drugs, alcohol, that they shouldn't be meddling with. But they start to meddle and these things can only bring hurt. Wrong relationships can only bring pain.

Pro 17:15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD.

- **I've heard people try to justify the wicked,** and I have heard people condemning the just. We are living in an age where this is a very common practice. The holding up as idols, before the public, the wicked people. The putting down, making fun of the just people. These things are an abomination to the Lord.

Pro 17:16 Why is there in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom, Since he has no heart for it?

- **Why pay your tuition to go to college** when you have really no interest in learning? That's a question he doesn't answer, but he just asks the question, but it's an interesting one.

Pro 17:17 A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

- **That's one of the characteristics of friendship.** They love you in spite of what they know about you, they love at all times. Now there are times when you are more lovely and easier to love. We all have those days when we're out of sorts, and we're hard to be around. But a friend loves at all times. They just learned to shut up in those days, and let you rant.

Pro 17:18 A man devoid of understanding shakes hands in a pledge, And becomes surety for his friend.

- **Solomon warns over, and over about this. Don't be a co-signer on a loan. Don't** guarantee someone else's debts. He talks about the, you know, how it can break up friendships if you sign someone else's, for someone's responsibility, take care of someone else's debts, you know, you're gonna guarantee that loan. Just, you better figure on paying it. So, he, he, several places in the proverbs, he warns against striking on it. Now that's the way we say, "Shake on it," and we shake hands. Well, they would strike hands, sort of a high five. When they've made a deal they'll sort of high five the hands, they strike the

hands.

Pro 17:19 He who loves transgression loves strife, And he who exalts his gate seeks destruction.

- **Some people who love strife.** I've met them! I was reading a report of an anthropologist, who was when, in one of the primitive tribes, in the area of New Guinea. But this one tribal group that he was studying, every morning, when they'd get up, they'd have a big fight. He came to the conclusion that their diet was providing insufficient nourishment, to give them strength. So, the only way that they could get enough energy to work during the day was to get into a big fight, and get the adrenaline all pumped into their system, and with this adrenaline pumped into their system, then they had the energy to go out and work.

Pro 17:20 He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, And he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil.

- **The man with a perverse heart will not, cannot find good.** So, watch out for that perverse heart, or perverse tongue. It's not gonna do you any good at all. It will get you into trouble.

Pro 17:21 He who begets a scoffer does so to his sorrow, And the father of a fool has no joy.

- **Well, thank God I don't know about that! But, I can imagine it would be a problem.** If you had a child that was just foolish, completely foolish, bring real sorrow. In contrast to that.

Pro 17:22 A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.

- **It's an amazing thing, our human body, and how God has created us.** Created little laboratories in our body, that are creating exotic chemicals, that they inject into your body. When you are happy, when you have a merry heart, you've got a little chemistry lab that starts producing good chemicals, make you healthy. "A merry heart, it's as good as a medicine."

Pro 17:23 A wicked man accepts a bribe behind the back To pervert the ways of justice.

- **We are told to beware of those who come bearing gifts.** It is the way by which people often times seek to pervert good judgment. You know, they give you a gift, and then you feel obligated, then they come along with the real hook. You've taken the gift, and now you're sort of obligated. So, it's a, it's a perverse way by which the wicked get the things that they want.

Pro 17:24 Wisdom is in the sight of him who has understanding, But the eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth.

- **That is, if you have understanding, wisdom is right there in front of you.** Real wisdom is right, the answer is right there in front of you, whereas the fool searches to the ends of the earth.

Pro 17:25 A foolish son is a grief to his father, And bitterness to her who bore him.

- **A foolish son is a grief to his father:** Parents may find great grief in the foolish character of their children. **And bitterness to her who bore him:** Because of the maternal instinct, there is a special pain and bitterness that belongs to the mother of a foolish son or daughter.

Pro 17:26 Also, to punish the righteous is not good, Nor to strike princes for their uprightness.

- **God's moral order insists that the righteous be rewarded and the wicked be punished.** To upset this or reverse it *is not good*. If a leader is upright, he should never be punished, especially by striking. *Uprightness* should be rewarded and honored, not punished.

Pro 17:27 He who has knowledge spares his words, And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.

- **Wisdom may be revealed by the knowledge of when to keep quiet.** We should not think that the wise man or woman reveals their wisdom by talking a lot. **A man of understanding is of a calm spirit:** The peace and contentment that properly come to the wise is described here as a *calm spirit*. To be constantly agitated and upset is a mark of folly, not wisdom.

Pro 17:28 Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.

- **That goes along with that other proverb, "Better to keep quiet and let people think you're a fool, than to open your mouth and remove all their doubts."** That's basically what Solomon was saying here. "Even a fool, when he holds his peace is counted wise: and he who shuts his lips is esteemed a man of understanding."

CLOSING SONG

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HE IS OUR PEACE - Russell Carter – Maranatha Singers (3:28)

He is our peace, Who has broken down every wall, He is our peace, He is our peace.

He is our peace Who has broken down every wall, He is our peace, He is our peace.

Cast all your cares on Him, For He cares for you, He is our peace, He is our peace.

Cast all your cares on Him, For He cares for you, He is our peace, He is our peace. (2X)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE/MILITARY;

ISRAEL:

PRESIDENT TRUMP AND THE NEW ADMINISTRATION!

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx24gze60yzo> Marco Rubio-State; Scott Bessent-Treasury; Pete Hegseth-Defense; Pam Bondi-Attorney General; Doug Burgum-Interior; Brooke Rollins-Agriculture; Howard Lutnick-Commerce; Chavez-DeRemer-Labor; Robert Kennedy, Jr.-Health & Human Services; Scott Turner-HUD; Sean Duffy-Transportation; Chris Wright- Energy; Linda McMahon-Education; Doug Collins-VA; Kristi Noem-Homeland Security