

PROVERBS 16 - Wise Sayings of Solomon!

1/18/25 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

Pro 16:1 The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

- **When you have committed yourself unto Jesus Christ, the scripture says,** “It is God that works in you both to will, and to do of His good pleasure.” So, the preparations of the heart. God is working in our hearts. Many times, the work of God is unconscious to us. I am not aware of what God is doing. I have discovered that God works in such natural ways in my life, that I am not always aware of the supernatural, because it seems so natural. As you commit your life to follow the Lord, as you surrender yourself to follow Him, God begins to plant His desires in your heart. He begins to guide you, according to His plan, by giving you those strong urges in your heart.

Pro 16:2 All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the spirits.

- **We seem to be able to justify just about anything we ever have done,** or ever will do! You know, “I was right. It was the others who were wrong!” “The ways of a man are clean in his own eyes,” we justify ourselves.
- **You may justify yourself, but that will not count before God.** You must have that forgiveness. God sees the spirit, God weighs the spirit. But the glorious thing is that God is willing to forgive, no matter what you have done. But it is not by your justifying it! It is by your confession of it. If we say we have no sin, if we say it was not wrong, then we deceive ourselves. The truth in it is not in us. “But if we confess our sins, then He is faithful and just to forgive us, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Pro 16:3 Commit your works to the LORD, And your thoughts will be established.

- **The third proverb is one that is so important,** for it encourages us to *Commit our works to the Lord, establishing your thoughts*. Now a lot of people are apologizing for the work that they have done for God. When they come up and they start saying, “Well I tried, but it just did not seem to work out. You know, I, I just feel like a failure,” and all of this. I say, “Did you do your best?” and if they say, “Well, yes,” I say, “Well then commit the rest.” A good proverb, “Do your best and commit the rest.” But it is sort of borrowed from Solomon here, a bit. That is, just commit your works to the Lord.
- **It is interesting to me that so many of those that God used** in such a mighty way were people who were aware, very aware of their own inadequacies. Moses that great leader! When God called him, he said, “Lord I cannot speak! When Jeremiah was called by God, he said, “Lord! I am just a kid! Nobody is going to listen to me! But just commit the work to the Lord. Say, “Well here Lord, I am, use me,” and commit the work. Do not worry about it, do not sit and fret.
- **And your thoughts will be established.** You will not worry about it. You know, just quit worrying about it. Just say, “Hey Lord, best I could do. Sorry”, And, He will establish, He will establish your thoughts. God’s plan is a continuing revelation.

Pro 16:4 The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

- **Now, that is a truth that you cannot escape.** Not only did God make everything for Himself, but He made everything for His own pleasure. Now there are a lot of people that want to fault God for this. They want to accuse God of selfish motivations. I personally would be extremely cautious how I accuse God of anything. But there are people that feel that is not fair.” Marriage to the LORD!
- **God has created everything for Himself.** “Thou has created all things,” they said, “and for your pleasure they, are and were created.” You say, “Well I don’t appreciate that.” Well, that is tough! You cannot do anything about it. That is just the way it is. God created you for His pleasure.
- **Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.** God has created all things for Himself. Now, theological problems arise. If God knew everything in advance, which the Bible asserts that He does, He is omniscient. That is, He knows all things. We can only surmise or speculate why God did certain things. There is a lot of speculation as to why God did, and does, what He did, and does.

Pro 16:5 Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.

- **The man who is proud**, is a man who has not yet seen God. Jesus, in the beginning of the sermon on the mount, in the beatitudes said, “Blessed are the poor in spirit.” Now that is the opposite of proud. “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” But poverty of spirit is the natural consequence and result of an encounter, a true encounter with God.
- **It is interesting that those who have had a real encounter with God**, and have truly seen God, then actually see themselves! Many times, for the first time. They see the truth about themselves.

Pro 16:6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.

Pro 16:7 When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

- **By the fear of the Lord men depart from evil.** Oh God give us that fear of the Lord that will cause us to depart from evil! *When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.*
- **God created you for His pleasure.** The highest experience that you can have in life is doing those things that please the Lord. When your life pleases the Lord, He will cause even your enemies to be at peace with you! Now here is one of those interesting comparisons.

Pro 16:8 Better is a little with righteousness, Than vast revenues without justice.

- **You are much better off to be a poor righteous man**, than to be a wealthy sinner. You will be better off to be the poorest saint in heaven, than the richest man in hell. It is interesting how that Moses took the best that the world had to offer, and he compared it with the worst that the Lord had to offer, and opted for what the Lord had to offer.
- **The worst that the Lord has to offer you is better than the best** that the world has to offer you!

Pro 16:9 A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

- **God is in control. God is sovereign** over our, all of our lives. He is really in control. I may make my plans, and I may devise my schemes, but in the final outcome, God is going to work out His plan, and His will. “The Lord directs his steps.”

Pro 16:10 Divination is on the lips of the king; His mouth must not transgress in judgment.

- **A divine sentence in the lips of the king**, a divine sentence. Actually, the king, and Solomon is now speaking this as an ideal. Unfortunately, it is not always true. Sometimes the ruler is governed by unrighteousness, but this is an ideal for kings that what they say, is of God. That they become God's representative before the people. That they rule as God's instrument. That was God's desire for the king. No one can really rule, unless he understands that he is ruled by God.
- **One of the big problems of government today is the failure** to acknowledge God as king. That failure of seeking the will of God, in the legislation over the people, but legislating from a social position. *His mouth must not transgress in judgment.* He represents God and he brings forth God's judgment.

Pro 16:11 Honest weights and scales are the LORD's; All the weights in the bag are His work.

- **Their commerce was done with balanced scales.** There was all kinds of cheating. But the just balance. Honesty in business, honesty in commerce. Balances are used as a symbol for justice. So, a fairness in justice is something that God is looking for also. “The honest weights and scales are the LORD's.”
- **All the weights in the bag are His work.** Now they had these little bag of weights. The ounce, the pound, the, of course in those days it was the shekel, and the various talent, and the various weights that they had. But, the, they were little weights that they would put on the balanced scales, and God wants honesty in our business practices.

Pro 16:12 It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness, For a throne is established by righteousness.

- **Look at the history of the kings. Read about the kings.** Their wickedness, it was indeed an abomination!

Pro 16:13 Righteous lips are the delight of kings, And they love him who speaks what is right.

- **Dealing with kings**, but that is an area with which we are not familiar.

Pro 16:14 As messengers of death is the king's wrath, But a wise man will appease it.

- **The king had his power**, in his power to order people to be put to death. You remember the case of Esther, she, she was fearful even to going in before her own husband. “If I go in without him inviting me, if he doesn’t lift the scepter, I’m dead!” The powers of the king. Life and death. “But a wise man will appease it!

Pro 16:15 In the light of the king's face is life, And his favor is like a cloud of the latter rain.

- **This is in contrast, the king is angry with you**, he can order you to put to death, but in the light of the king’s countenance, is life..

Pro 16:16 How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

- **The importance of wisdom and understanding**. The value that it is to you. “It’s better than gold or silver!”

Pro 16:17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; He who keeps his way preserves his soul.

- **So, the way that I walk. The highway is that of uprightness**, and departing from evil. Here is one that you have heard quoted.

Pro 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

- **There is, there is just an awful lot to this**. Watch out for pride, it will destroy you. Watch out for a haughty spirit. You will come down.
- **The vast majority of those westerners that are there are college professors**, and college students, who have found that with all of their education, there is an emptiness. So, they are seeking some kind of spiritual reality, and they go to sit at the feet of this Sai baba. They become enamored. It is amazing what people will believe when they have rejected the truth of God.
- **The Bible gives us the reason, “Because they did not have the love of the truth**, God gave them over to believe a lie.” God gave them a strong delusion because they did not have the love of the truth.

Pro 16:19 Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Pro 16:20 He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy is he.

- **This is a contrast to the previous one, it is better to have a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud**. Better to be poor and humble, than proud and rich!

Pro 16:21 The wise in heart will be called prudent, And sweetness of the lips increases learning.

- **Put your trust in the Lord**, happy. How important it is that we handle matters wisely. How can I handle a matter wisely? By putting my trust in the Lord. That is the key to handling the matter wisely. You handle a matter wisely, you find good. The wise way to handle every matter is just to trust the Lord.

Pro 16:22 Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it. But the correction of fools is folly.

- **The instruction of fools is folly**. The Bible says, in defining the fool, “A fool has said in his heart, there is no God.” The instruction of fools is folly. Therefore, it is folly to be instructed by atheists. “The instruction of fools is folly.”

Pro 16:23 The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, And adds learning to his lips.

- **A few proverbs** that deal with wisdom.

Pro 16:24 Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

- **“A word spoken in due season, how good it is!”** pleasant words. They are just as a honeycomb. They are just sweet, and they are healthy. The power of the tongue to heal, to encourage, to comfort. The power of the tongue to destroy, to cut.

Pro 16:25 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

- **This is the second time this Proverb is put in the book**. I always figure if God repeats something, it must be very important! It is repeated here repeated because of the excellence, importance, and usefulness of the observation, and to stimulate, excite an attention to it; that men may be more diligent to look into their ways, and be more cautious where and how they walk, and be more considerate and thoughtful.

Pro 16:26 The person who labors, labors for himself, For his hungry mouth drives him on.

- You know how much of our labor just goes to feed ourselves! “He who labors, labors for himself, For his hungry mouth drives him on. One would think the best job ever is to work at a restaurant where I could get all I could eat. My other jobs, I spent everything I got on eating.

Pro 16:27 An ungodly man digs up evil, And it is on his lips like a burning fire.

- He looks for evil, he digs up all of the dirt that he can. It is on his lips like a burning fire.

Pro 16:28 A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.

- That is the perverse man, he sows strife, and a whisperer, gossiper, separates the best of friends.

Pro 16:29 A violent man entices his neighbor, And leads him in a way that is not good.

- We are dealing with ungodly men, perverse men, now violent man who entices his neighbour, and leads him in the way that is not good. Leads them astray.

Pro 16:30 He winks his eye to devise perverse things; He purses his lips and brings about evil.

- He meditates deeply upon ways and means to commit sin. He shuts his eyes that he may shut out all other ideas, that his whole soul may be in this.

Pro 16:31 The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, If it is found in the way of righteousness.

- But, the silver-haired person. The gray hair is a crown of glory, “If it is found in the way of righteousness.” You know there is nothing worse than an ungodly old person. But if the person is found in the way of righteousness, it is the most beautiful thing in the world. But, if it is not in the way of righteousness, it has got to be the most ugly thing in the world. If you have silver hair, walk in the way of righteousness, because it is a crown of glory to do so.

Pro 16:32 He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

- A lot of times it takes more power to rule your own spirit, than it does to take a city, to conquer a city. People can conquer a city, but they cannot conquer their own spirit. Slow to anger, better than being strong.

Pro 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the LORD.

- The lot is cast into the lap. Now just exactly what it was, it, we sort of figured it was maybe something like throwing dice. The lot cast in the lap. It was a way of determining an answer.
- But its every decision is from the LORD. The real disposition, or the guidance comes from God.

CLOSING SONG

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Pro 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

Pro 16:19 Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

HUMBLE THYSELF IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD – Maranatha Music

Humble Thyself In the Sight of the Lord; Humble Thyself In the Sight of the Lord;

And He shall Lift You Up, Higher and Higher And He shall Lift You Up (3x)

Up into Heaven And He shall Lift You Up; And He shall Lift You Up, Higher and Higher

And He shall Lift You Up, Up into Heaven And He shall Lift You Up

And He shall Lift You Up (8X)

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

ISRAEL:

FOR STATES POSTING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS! LOUISIANA! TENNESSEE!

OKLAHOMA (Bible in schools - State Supt. Public Instruction, Ryan Walters)! OTHER STATES?

PRESIDENT TRUMP AND THE NEW ADMINISTRATION!