

PROVERBS 21 - Wise Sayings of Solomon!

2/22/25 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

Pro 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

- God is in control. He is sovereign, allowing things to happen that we often do not understand. Sometimes the only comfort that I can get in circumstances is to know that God is on the throne, and God is in control, and though this seems like a hard, heavy thing, yet all things are working together for good. God is working out His purpose in my heart, and in my life. Even through, and often times through extremely difficult circumstances. Because, God knows my temperament, and my stubborn nature that it takes difficult things to get me to pay attention.

Pro 21:2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But (10x chap 21) the LORD weighs the hearts.

- To hear a person tell their side of the story you, you would say, “My that is terrible! You were really wrong!” But then when you hear someone else tell their side, two different stories! Whoever tells the story, he was right.
- The Lord knows the motive. The Bible tells us that, “There is a day coming when the secrets of the heart shall be revealed. For everything is naked and open before Him, whom we all must stand.” So, we judge according to the outward appearances so many times.

Pro 21:3 To do righteousness and justice (being obedient) Is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

- Now the purpose of sacrifice was to bring alienated man back into fellowship with God. When God created man, the purpose of creating man, was fellowship. So that, fellowship with God could be restored. Thus, sacrifice was one of the most important steps of the restoring of a man's relationship with God, who had become alienated by his sin. Better *to do righteousness and justice*, being obedient, than to offer sacrifices.

Pro 21:4 A haughty look, a proud heart, And the plowing (*nir* – light, lamp; producing results) of the wicked are sin.

- A high look (outward pride), a proud heart (inward pride), and the light, lamp of the wicked, is sin.
- The wicked can't do anything right. But the proud look, the proud heart, the high look, how God hates, detests. Humble yourself. (*Mat 23:12*) *And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.*

Pro 21:5 The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, But those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty.

- Again, there is the constant commending of a person being diligent. There is that constant condemning of a person being lazy. So here, a person who is diligent in his business gives careful thought to his actions and activities, and plans things out, he is going to prosper. But those that are hasty in their decisions, or in a hurry to get rich, they are going to end up in poverty.

Pro 21:6 Getting treasures by a lying tongue Is the fleeting fantasy of those who seek death.

- Enriching yourself by lies, by fraudulent methods, results in emptiness. When they catch up with you, they are going to kill you.

Pro 21:7 The violence (robbery) of the wicked will destroy them, Because they refuse to do justice.

- The wicked often love violence and use it for their gain. This is not pleasing to God. He allows such people to reap what they have sown.

Pro 21:8 The way of a guilty man is perverse; But as for the pure, his work is right.

- A man will ultimately be destroyed by his own actions. The contrast here of a perverse man, with a pure man.

Pro 21:9 Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

- Solomon was notorious for the number of wives that he had. Among those women were the contentious. If you have only a little shack out there, where there's peace, it is better than dwelling in a big house with a contentious woman.

Pro 21:10 The soul of the wicked desires evil; His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes.

- Down deep inside the wicked, there is the desire for evil. The perverseness of the heart. Even his neighbor, whom he is ready to take advantage of, finds no favor in his eyes.

Pro 21:11 When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise; But when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.

- We need to consider these things so that we learn lessons from the experience of others around us.

Pro 21:12 The righteous God wisely considers the house of the wicked, Overthrowing the wicked for their wickedness.

- You see them with all of their riches, and all of the splendor and all, but wisely considering it, you realize that death is going to bring the end. Even worse than the end, it is to bring horrible retribution of God against their wickedness. "For God overthrows the wicked for their wickedness!"

Pro 21:13 Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor Will also cry himself and not be heard.

- Solomon often takes up the cause of the poor, just as the Lord does. Here is another proverb that is encouraging us to help the poor. If you shut your ears at the cry of the poor, then when you are in crying out in need, there will be no one to listen to you.

Pro 21:14 A gift in secret pacifies anger, And a bribe behind the back, strong wrath.

- The way to appease anger. Most husbands have found this out, take some flowers home, you know. *Pacifies anger*, bring home a gift. *A gift in secret pacifies anger*, but a *bribe behind the back brings strong wrath*.

Pro 21:15 It is a joy for the just to do justice, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.

- If you are a just person, doing the right thing is just a joy, it's a delight! Don't you feel good when you have done the right thing? "It's just a joy to the just to do judgment."

Pro 21:16 A man who wanders from the way of understanding Will rest in the assembly of the dead.

- How important it is to have an understanding. If you wander out of that path you are in, you will rest in the assembly of the dead.

Pro 21:17 He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

- The person who loves pleasure lacks discipline and self-denial and often ends up a poor man.
- He who loves the luxuries of life beyond proper measure, *will not be rich*.

Pro 21:18 The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, And the unfaithful for the upright.

- God often in his judgments cuts off the wicked, in order to prevent them from destroying the righteous. And in general, we find that the wicked fall into the traps and pits they have dugged for the righteous.

Pro 21:19 Better to dwell in the wilderness, Than with a contentious and angry woman.

- In a previous verse 9, it was better to live in the corner of a rooftop than with a contentious woman. Here this proverb removes the man from the house entirely and sets his better place *in the wilderness*.
- Verse 9 spoke of the contentious woman; Here *anger* is added to the picture, setting the unfortunate man even further from the house (*in the wilderness*). This shows the great value of peace and happiness in the home.

Pro 21:20 There is desirable treasure, And oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man squanders it.

- The wise man or woman lives a life blessed by God, and sometimes that blessing is reflected in material things. They may have *desirable treasure and oil* in their home.
- The foolish man has trouble *gaining* what the wise man or woman has. He doesn't have the character of life or blessing of God that leads to prosperity. Yet even if he were to gain it, it would not last. His *foolish man squanders it*.

Pro 21:21 He who follows righteousness and mercy Finds life, righteousness and honor.

- What are you seeking? Are you seeking righteousness, are you seeking mercy? Then you are going to find life, and righteousness, and honor.

Pro 21:22 A wise man scales the city of the mighty, And brings down the trusted stronghold.

- So, by wisdom a city is taken, the wise man will scale it, the city of the mighty.

Pro 21:23 Whoever guards his mouth and tongue Keeps his soul from troubles.

- How many times have you gotten in trouble because you said something? You know, the Bible talks about the tongue being an unruly member, and how much better it is just to keep your mouth shut so many times. You can just stay out of a lot of trouble by just keeping quiet.

Pro 21:24 A proud and haughty man—"Scoffer" is his name; He acts with arrogant pride.

- Of the many types of fools, the scoffer is one of the worst. He is known to be *proud and haughty*, thinking of himself as being better than others and even better than God.
- The *proud and haughty man* will be known by his actions. His life will be marked with great pride, *arrogant pride*.

Pro 21:25 The desire of the lazy man kills him, For his hands refuse to labor.

- You *desire*, you want, but you are too lazy to work. So that desire can feel as it is killing you, just driving you mad! "Oh, I wish I had this! Oh, I wish I had that!" "Well, go out and work." "No! But sure, wish I had it!" The desire of the lazy kills him.

Pro 21:26 He covets greedily all day long, But the righteous gives and does not spare.

- It is just there nagging on you. You want it, you desire it, but you will not work for it.
- *The righteous gives and does not spare*: The lazy man experiences disappointment, but the *righteous* man works hard. He has so much that he *gives and does not spare*. He is so blessed that he has enough for himself and to give generously.

Pro 21:27 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; How much more when he brings it with wicked intent!

- God knows your heart, and *the sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to God*. It even worse when he does *it with wicked intent*.

Pro 21:28 A false witness shall perish, But the man who hears him will speak endlessly.

- God is against all liars, but a *false witness* who lies in court is a special type of liar, such as those who gave *false witness* at the trial of Jesus.
- *The man who hears him will speak endlessly*. Another kind of injustice in the court, is the judge or lawyer in the court who *hears* the false witness and may *speak endlessly* about the matter without ever coming to a just and fair conclusion.

Pro 21:29 A wicked man hardens his face, But as for the upright, he establishes his way.

- Now the *wicked* so often get hardened in their position, saying, "I am going to do it, and I do not care what people say; I do not care what God thinks. I am going to do it!" He *hardens* himself in *his way*.
- But the upright, he looks to God for direction. I am pliable, I am, I am open to be directed by God.

Pro 21:30 There is no wisdom or understanding Or counsel against the LORD.

- This is an important proverb that we all should take to heart! There is an old Greek proverb that declares, "The dice of the gods are loaded." That is, you cannot really go against God and win!
- *Wisdom or understanding or counsel*: Three similar terms used to express wisdom and right knowledge. God is the God of all *wisdom* and *understanding* and *counsel*, so those things are always *for* Him and never *against* the Lord.

Pro 21:31 The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the LORD.

- The horse was the tank in those days, he was the super weapon, he was the advantage in a battle. The horse being strong, and large, was a definite advantage in any battle. But the real safety is not in the horse. It is of the Lord! A person should not look to the horse for safety! Do not look to material things, or whatever, look to the Lord!
- *Deliverance is of the Lord*, not only of horses and preparation.

*(Pro 21:2,8,16,29) Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts.
[8] The way of a guilty man is perverse; But as for the pure, his work is right.
[16] A man who wanders from the way of understanding Will rest in the assembly of the dead.
[29] A wicked man hardens his face, But as for the upright, he establishes his way.*

HAVE THINE OWN WAY – Pollard/Stebbins - Maranatha Music (2:05)

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after Thy will, While I am waiting, yielded and still.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now, As in Thy presence humbly I bow.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power, all power, surely is Thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway!
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me.*

**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE/MILITARY;
ISRAEL:**

**President Trump; Vice President Vance; Speaker Mike Johnson; Senate Leader John Thune;
Supreme Court; Marco Rubio-State; Scott Bessent-Treasury; Pete Hegseth-Defense; Pam Bondi-
Attorney General; Doug Burgum-Interior; Brooke Rollins-Agriculture; Howard Lutnick-Commerce;
Lori Chavez-DeRemer-Labor; Robert Kennedy, Jr.-Health & Human Services; Scott Turner-HUD;
Sean Duffy-Transportation; Chris Wright-Energy; Linda McMahon-Education; Doug Collins-VA;
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