PROVERBS 11-12

- **REVIEW…**
  - Way of Wisdom…
    - Wisdom built her house [seven pillars] - and prepared the feast…
    - Then she invited EVERYONE to come [Marriage supper of the Lamb]
    - The question is who will CHOSE to walk away from the foolishness of this world and COME…
    - The WISE man has the fear of the Lord - and is willing to be CORRECTED…
    - But the FOOL listens to the call of SIN [immoral woman] and is destroyed [hell]!
  - Wise Sayings…

- **Proverbs 10:1 - 22:16** - is the SECOND section of the book…
- A collection of sayings - laid out as individual truths [verses]
- Often the statements are NOT connected – there is not much context or organization…
- So we will look at and interpret each PROVERB individually!

- Hebrew Poetry…
  - Proverbs s a book of Hebrew POETRY - which does not rhyme WORDS but IDEAS…
  - CONTRASTING ideas [but] - COMPARING ideas [as - like] - COMPLIMENTING ideas [and]
  - We will see a lot of this style of RHYMING as we come into the SECOND section!

Words of Wisdom…

- **1st – Way of the Wise… vs. 1-9**
  - 1st – Honesty… vs. 1
    - Dishonest scales are an abomination to the LORD - BUT a just weight is His delight!
    - Even in the days of Solomon - it was a common practice to take ADVANTAGE of others…
    - MERCHANTS would weight their scales - to CHEAT the buyers…
    - They might purchase ONE kilo of fish - but would only get ¾ a KILO!
    - It is NEVER worth it to CHEAT people - and try and get a little EXTRA cash…
    - Because eventually they are going to figure it out - and take their business elsewhere…
    - And even if they do NOT know - GOD does - and He is NOT happy [abomination]
    - Better to have PEACE [שָׁלֵם] - and use the right WEIGHT - then God will DELIGHT in us!
  - 2nd - Humility… vs. 2
    - When pride comes then comes shame - BUT with the humble is wisdom!
    - PRIDE will always lead [sequential] to SHAME…
    - BUT [וְ] - those who are HUMBLE - show they have WISDOM…
    - HUMBLE [2 - [צָנַע]x in OT - is what God requires from ALL men!
    - **Micah 6:8** - "He has shown you O man - what is good and what does the LORD require of you. But to do justly - to love mercy - and to walk humbly [צָנַע]with your God?
    - Why is it WISE to live HUMBLY – because God RESISTS [go to war] with the PROUD - **I Peter 5:5**
    - If God is preparing to go to WAR with us – we are in TROUBLE – and will be put to SHAME…
    - Therefore - it is very WISE to walk HUMBLY - live our life dependent on Jesus!
  - 3rd - Integrity… vs. 3

- Integrity of the upright will guide them - BUT the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them!
- Those with INTEGRITY look to the WORD of God - and will be GUIDED [hiphil]
- BUT [וְ] - those who do NOT have FAITH - do NOT know what to do…
- They are on the CROOKED [perverted] path - that leads to DESTRUCTION!
- INTEGRITY speaks of who we are when no one is watching…
- Not just LOOKING like a Christian on Sundays - or to impress people…
- When we genuinely put our TRUST in Jesus - He will direct our steps - **Proverbs 3:5-6**

o 4th - Righteousness… vs. 4-10

- In Heaven… vs. 4
  - Riches do not profit in the day of wrath - BUT righteousness delivers from death!
  - MONEY will not HELP in the Day of WRATH [עֶבְרָה] - from the ROOT to be TAKEN away…
  - BUT [וְ] - the RIGHTEOUS will be SAVED [hiphil] from the [second] DEATH!
  - The world has its own version of the Golden Rule - the one with the GOLD makes the RULES…
  - And while that is true for now - it will NOT work on the JUDGEMENT day - **Revelation 20:12**
  - The ONLY way to be SAVED - is by receiving the RIGHTEOUSNESS of Christ!
- On Earth… vs. 5
  - The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way aright.
  - BUT the wicked will fall by his own wickedness!
  - The BLAMELESS - those who are COMPLETE [תָּמִים] in Christ - have their sins FORGIVEN…
  - Will live a RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק] life - and walk the STRAIGHT [יָשָׁר] path…
  - BUT [וְ] - the WICKED will keep falling [imperfect] - because of their SIN [wickedness]!
  - We do NOT try and live a GOOD life - in order to overcome SIN…
  - It is because we are FORGIVEN [blameless] - that makes us live a GOOD [righteous] life…
  - We WANT to walk the straight path - because Jesus changed out heart - **II Corinthians 5:17**
  - But the person who does not know Jesus keep falling - because they are still a SLAVE to SIN!
- Delivered… vs. 6-8
  - Righteousness of the upright will deliver them - BUT the unfaithful will be caught by lust.
  - When a wicked man dies his expectation will perish - AND the hope of the unjust perishes.
  - The righteous is delivered from trouble - AND it comes to the wicked instead!
  - Because [hiphil] the RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק] walk the STRAIGHT [upright] path they are SAFE…
  - BUT [וְ] - the DESIRES of those who have NO faith - cause them to STUMBLE…
  - And when the WICKED man [אָדָם] dies - his DESIRE [hope] dies with him…
  - BUT [וְ] - the RIGHTEOUS are saved [niphal] from [sequential] the trouble of the the WICKED!
  - When God asked Adam [אָדָם] what he had done he blamed God - the women YOU gave me…
  - When God asked Eve she blamed God – it was the serpent God made - **Genesis 3:12**
  - It was NOT God who made Adam and Eve sin – it was their DESIRE - **James 1:14**
  - But the good news is that Jesus came to SAVE us from the trouble caused by ADAM!
- Helpful… vs. 9
  - The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor.

- BUT through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.
- The HYPOCRITE attacks his neighbor - forgetting they are just as much of a SINNER…
- BUT [וְ] - the RIGHTEOUS know they are NOT better - and reach out to SAVE [niphal] others!
- Charles Spurgeon [preacher] said – when I step out of the pulpit and I can commit ANY sin…
- Because the moment we forget we are a SINNER – we stop depending on the SAVIOR!
- There is a danger of forgetting we are NOT better than anyone else…
- We need to remember we are SINNERS - who need to be SAVED by Jesus!

- **2ND – WORDS OF THE WISE… VS. 10-14**
  - 1st – Blessed words… vs. 10-11
    - The good of the righteous makes the city rejoice - when the wicked perish there is jubilation.
    - By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted - BUT is overthrown by the wicked mouth!
    - When the RIGHTEOUS say GOOD [טָוֹב] things and BLESS the people - the city rejoices…
    - BUT [וְ] - when the wicked SPEAK [lies] they destroy - so at their death people shout for JOY!
    - Words are POWERFUL - they can either be used to BUILD up [bless] or DESTROY…
    - We can give people the TRUTH [Bible] - or we can give them LIES [wisdom of the world]
    - But the question is what do we want our LEGACY to be…
    - Because people will REJOICE: either when we COME and do good - or leave and die!
  - 2nd - No Words… vs. 12-13
    - He who has no wisdom despises his neighbor - BUT a man of understanding holds his peace!
    - A talebearer reveals secrets - BUT he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter!
    - The man who has NO heart [לֵֽב] - will STEP on [despise] his neighbor…
    - He will walk around telling [piel] EVERYONE their SECRETS [marites]
    - BUT [וְ] - the man who UNDERSTANDS - is FAITHFUL [niphal] to COVER [piel] for his neighbor!
    - People LOVE to GOSSIP - by exposing the SINS of others it makes them look BETTER…
    - But if we are TEMPTED to run around and spread RUMORS…
    - Remember - how we treat others - is how they will treat us - **Matthew 7:12**
  - 3rd - Wise Words… vs. 14
    - Where there is no counsel the people fall - BUT in the multitude of counselors there is safety!
    - When there is NOT any [אֵין] COUNSEL [direction] - a nation will FALL…
    - COUNSEL [תַּחְבֻּלֽוֹת] - picture of a SHIP being ANCHORED [pulled] by a ROPE…
    - BUT [וְ] - where there is a LOT [רֹ֣ב] of ADVICE [councilors] - there is SALVATION!
    - If we make a CHOICE without asking for ADVICE - it will often not end well…

- There is WISDOM in getting INPUT for MULTIPLE people we trust…
- They may have EXPERIENCE - or INSIGHT - that we lack that can help GUIDE us…
- But in the end we do NOT trust in the wisdom of MEN - our ANCHOR is the WORD of God!
- **Hebrews 6:19** - "This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls."

- **3RD - FINANCES OF THE WISE… VS. 15-18**
  - 1st – No Loans… vs. 15
    - He who is surety for a stranger will suffer - BUT one who hates being surety is secure!
    - Anyone who LOANS money to an UNBELIEVER [stranger] - will suffer a LOT [רַע־יֵרוֹעַ]
    - BUT [וְ] - someone who HATES loaning money is SAFE!
    - Whenever MONEY is involved it gets awkward - even with good intentions it does not end well…
    - Rather than get financially involved with UNBELIEVERS [who do not share our values]
    - We should instead have no other DEBT - than to LOVE one another - **Romans 13:8**
  - 2nd - Heavenly minded… vs. 16-17
    - A gracious woman retains honor - BUT ruthless men retain riches!
    - The merciful man does good for his own soul - BUT he who is cruel troubles his own flesh!
    - A WOMAN who has GRACE [חֵן] - is HOLDING [imperfect] onto GLORY [כָּבוֹד]
    - And the MAN who is LOVING [חֶסֶד] - is a reward to his SOUL…
    - BUT [וְ] - a MAN who is has no MORALS [ruthless] - is HOLDING [imperfect] onto MONEY…
    - The MAN who is CRUEL - will only bring TROUBLE to his BODY!
    - There are TWO perspective we can have in life - TEMPORAL [earth] or ETERNAL [heaven]
    - Those who focus on HEAVEN - will be marked by GRACE and LOVE…
    - And they will have a REWARD for their SOUL - they will get to GLORY [כָּבוֹד]
    - But those who focus on EARTH - will be known for their ruthless CRUELTY [love of money]
    - And in the END they will be in TROUBLE [judged] - because they lived for their FLESH!
  - 3rd - Good Reward… vs. 18
    - The wicked man does deceptive work - BUT he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward!
    - The WICKED works for DECEPTIVE wages - he is after the MONEY - but it will NOT last…
    - BUT [וְ] - the man who works [sows] for RIGHTEOUSNESS [צְדָקָה] - will have a guaranteed reward!
    - **Haggai 1:6** - "Wages disappear as though putting them in pockets filled with holes."

- The problem with MONEY - is that is QUICKLY disappears…
- It promises to take care of our problems - but it lies - because it does NOT last…
- But those who look to the LORD - will NEVER be disappointed - He ALWAYS provides!

- **4TH - LIFE OF THE WISE… VS. 19-23**
  - 1st – Chose life… vs. 19-20
    - As righteousness leads to life - BUT he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death.
    - Those who are of a perverse heart are an abomination to the LORD.
    - BUT the blameless in their ways are His delight!
    - Saying YES to RIGHTEOUSNESS [כֵּן־צְדָקָה] - leads to LIFE…
    - Because those who follow the path of the BLAMELESS [forgiven] - are the DELIGHT of the God…
    - BUT [וְ] - CHASING [piel] EVIL - leads to DEATH…
    - Because those who follow their PERVERTED heart [לֵב] - are an ABOMINATION to Him!
    - When Israel entered the Promised Land - stand between mount Ebal and mount Gerizim...
    - Mount Ebal - is a barren 1000 meter mountain covered in rocks - represented NO life...
    - Mt. Gerizim - is a well forested 1000 meter mountain - represented the fullness of LIFE...
    - The Priests stood in the valley between the two - and read the LAW to the nation!
    - **Deuteronomy 30:19** - "I have given you the choice between life and death."
    - We do NOT chose to LIVE or DIE - we CHOSE who we follow…
    - If we FOLLOW Jesus [Word] it leads to LIFE - if we FOLLOW our heart it leads to DEATH!
  - 2nd - Chose Truth… vs. 21
    - Though they join forces the wicked will not go unpunished.
    - BUT the posterity of the righteous will be delivered!
    - Just because people UNITE [hand in hand] - will not save them from the JUDGEMENT…
    - BUT [וְ] - the CHILDREN of RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק]will be saved [niphal]!
    - Let us be perfectly clear – TRUTH is NOT a matter of popular opinion…
    - It does NOT matter how many people agree – if they make it a LAW – **Romans 3:4**
    - The WORD of God is the ONLY source of TRUTH – **John 17:17**
    - And that Word will not just make us RIGHTEOUS - it will even save our CHILDREN!
  - 3rd - True Beauty… vs. 22

- As a ring of gold in a swine's snout - SO is a lovely woman who lacks discretion!
- An expensive RING in the nose of a PIG - does not make it look better [silly]
- AND [וְ] a PRETTY woman who is NOT godly [discretion] - is just like that gold ring!
- Not that there is anything wrong with a woman being pretty…
- But women should not focus on ONLY making the outside pretty…
- Instead put on good works – the inner beauty comes from knowing Jesus Christ!
- **I Peter 3:3-4** - "Do not be concerned about the outward beauty that depends on fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. Be known for the beauty that comes from within…"

○ 4th - Good Desires… vs. 23

- The desire of the righteous is only good - BUT the expectation of the wicked is wrath!
- The RIGHTEOUS person wants what is GOOD [טָוֹב] - the WICKED person wants the OPPOSITE!
- The WORLD is always the exact OPPOSITE of what the WORD says…
- The WORLD says to seek riches – the WORD says to be content – **Hebrews 13:5**
- The WORLD says to focus on yourself – the WORD says to die to ourselves – **Luke 9:23**
- The WORLD says to be strong – the WORD says we need to be weak – **II Corinthians 12:9**

● **5TH - WEALTH OF THE WISE… VS. 24-31**

○ 1st – Increases… vs. 24

- There is one who scatters yet increases more.
- BUT there is one who withholds more than is right and it leads to poverty!
- The person who abundantly [piel] shares with others - will have MORE…
- YET [עוֹד] the one who HOLD back - will end up POOR!

- God has a strange version of math – it is NOT the same as our math - **Luke 6:38**
- We cannot out give God - He will always bless us far beyond what we give to others...
- YET if we try and keep all our MONEY for ourselves - we always seem to be lacking!

○ 2nd - Generous… vs. 25-26

- The generous soul will be made rich - AND he who waters will also be watered himself.
- People will curse him who withholds grain - BUT blessing will be on the head of him who sells it!
- The SOUL that BLESSES others - will become FAT [blessed]
- AND [וְ] - the one who WATERS [hiphil] others - will be SHOWED [hophal] with water himself…

- People will CURSE the one who does NOT sell them RICE [grain]
- BUT [וְ] - they will BLESS the one who SELLS it to them!
- Sundays can be VERY longs days - from setting up - teaching - to tearing down…
- But at the end of the day we are not EMPTY - we are FULL…
- Because there is an acronym JOY: it stands for Jesus - then Others - and the very last is You…
- The key to a BLESSED life - is putting needs of OTHERS [water and food] before our own!

o 3rd - Seeking Good… vs. 27

- He who earnestly seeks good finds favor - BUT trouble will come to him who seeks evil!
- The one who gets up EARLY to seek [piel] what is GOOD [טָוֹב] - finds the WILL of God…
- BUT [וְ] - the one who seeks [participle] EVIL - will find it!
- We need to be careful what we are looking for - because we WILL find it…
- Better to seek to the LORD - so we can find His will for our lives - **Romans 12:2**

o 4th - Fruitful tree… vs. 28-30

- He who trusts in his riches will fall - BUT the righteous will flourish like foliage.
- He who troubles his house will inherit the wind - AND the fool will be servant to the wise heart.
- The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life - AND he who wins souls is wise!
- The man who TRUSTS in MONEY will always [imperfect] FAIL…
- That man will cause TROUBLE for his family - and will inherit NOTHING [wind]
- AND [וְ] he will end up being a SERVANT to the man who has a WISE heart [לֵֽב]
- BUT [וְ] - the RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק] are like a FLOWER that continually [imperfect] BLOOMS…
- His FRUIT is the TREE of Life in HEAVEN [the New Jerusalem - **Revelation 22:2**]
- But he does not go alone - he WINS [takes] other SOULS to go with him!
- As believers we often talk about how we can take NOTHING with us to heaven…
- That is NOT entirely true – there is something we can bring…
- PEOPLE who have accepted Jesus – those who we get to share the Gospel with!

o 5th - Rewarded… vs. 31

- The righteous will be recompensed on the earth - HOW much more the ungodly and the sinner!
- BEHOLD [הֵן] - since the RIGHTEOUS will be REWARDED [pual] while still here on EARTH…
- How much MORE because [כִּי] of WICKEDNESS - the SINNER will also receive their REWARD!

- If we PLANT an apple seed - we do not expect to HARVEST mangos…
- The same is true SPIRITUALLY - we will REAP what we SOW!
- **Galatians 6:7** – "God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows - that he will also reap."

- **6TH - CHARACTER OF THE WISE… VS. 1-14**
  - 1st - Loves Knowledge… vs. 1
    - Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge - BUT he who hates correction is stupid!
    - Anyone who LOVES to be corrected - also LOVES to learn…
    - BUT [וְ] - the person who HATES to be rebuked - is DUMB [stupid]!
    - Emperors new clothes - a KING as convinced he has the FINEST clothes in the LAND…
    - The catch – the clothes are INVISIBLE to those who are STUPID…
    - The KING not wanting to be STUPID – marches through his kingdom NAKED…
    - NOT willing [hating] to ADMIT – he was the one who was being FOOLED!
    - No one LIKES to have their FAULTS pointed out to them…
    - But it is better to recognize our failure - than to blindly continue in them!
  - 2nd - Favor by God… vs. 2-3
    - A good man obtains favor from the LORD - BUT a man of wicked intentions He will condemn.
    - A man is not established by wickedness - BUT the root of the righteous cannot be moved!
    - Doing GOOD [טוֹב] brings [hiphil] favor from the LORD [יְהוָה]
    - And the feet [root] of the RIGHTEOUS will NOT be able [niphal] to SLIP…
    - BUT [וְ] - the man who THINKS about EVIL - God will JUDGE [hiphil]
    - Because a MAN [אָדָם] who is WICKED - will NOT be able [niphal] to stand before Him!
    - It is important to guard our MINDS - because what we THINK becomes what we DO…
    - And what we DO - is what determines our ability to STAND before the LORD!
  - 3rd - Crown of strength… vs. 4
    - An excellent wife is the crown of her husband.
    - BUT she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones!
    - A WIFE who has VIRTUE - is a crown to her husband [lord]
    - VIRTUE [חַיִל] - to have STRENGTH - to be resourceful - **Proverbs 31:10**
    - BUT [וְ] - a WIFE who causes SHAME - is like rottenness in his bones!

- Women have IMMENSE power in the lives of their husbands…
- To BUILD up by working with [submitting] him - or TEAR down by humiliating him!

- 4th - Right thoughts… vs. 5
  - The thoughts of the righteous are right - BUT the counsels of the wicked are deceitful!
  - The THOUGHTS of the RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק] are about the JUDGEMENT [מִשְׁפָּט]
  - BUT [וְ] - the GUIDANCE of the WICKED are LIES!
  - Why do men come up with RELIGIONS - why do they believe in EVOLUTION…
  - Because the greatest fear of ALL is the FEAR of death - because it means JUDGEMENT…
  - Therefore they LIE to themselves - and try and convince others it will NOT happen!
- 5th - Helpful heart… vs. 6
  - Words of the wicked are lie in wait for blood - BUT the mouth of the upright will deliver them!
  - The WICKED seek to WOUND [blood] others with their WORDS…
  - BUT [וְ] - the WORDS [mouth] of the UPRIGHT [forgiven] seek to SAVE them!
  - When Jesus healed a lame man on the Sabbath - the Pharisees attacked him…
  - While the leaders HARMED with their words - Jesus HEALED with His!
  - You can tell a LOT about person by what comes out of their MOUTH…
  - Because what comes out of our MOUTH - reveals what is in our HEART - **Matthew 12:34**
- 6th - Immovable… vs. 7
  - The wicked are overthrown and are no more - BUT the house of the righteous will stand!
  - The WICKED are wiped out - as if they had NEVER [אֵין] been there…
  - BUT [וְ] - the HOUSE of the RIGHTEOUS keep [imperfect] on STANDING!
  - Bad things happen to both the WICKED and the RIGHTEOUS - **John 16:33**
  - But only the RIGHTEOUS - those who put their FAITH on the ROCK - can stand in the storm!
- 7th - Wise words… vs. 8
  - A man will be commended according to his wisdom - BUT a perverse heart will be despised!
  - A man will SHINE - when WISDOM comes from his MOUTH…
  - BUT [וְ] - the person with a crooked HEART [לֵב] - will always [imperfect] be disliked!
  - The best the world can give is their ideas [heart] - and they are usually WRONG [despised]
  - But when we give people the WISDOM of the WORD - we will always be RIGHT!

- 8th - Humble… vs. 9
  - Better is the one who is slighted but has a servant - than he who honors himself but lacks bread!
  - It is better [טָוֹב] to be UNIMPORTANT and [וְ] SERVE others…
  - Than to pretend you have HONOR [כָּבוֹד] but have NO food!
  - I had a man come up after service one Sunday and introduce himself with fancy titles…
  - My reply to him was my name is David - sinner saved by grace!
  - People like to BRAG - because they think they VALUE is found in WHO they are…
  - But true VALUE comes from WHO is in us - the God we SERVE!
  - **II Corinthians 4:7** - "We have this treasure in earthen vessels."
- 9th- Kind to all… vs. 10
  - A righteous man regards the life of his animal - BUT the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel!
  - The RIGHTEOUS consider [יָדֵעַ] the wellbeing [נֶפֶשׁ] of their animals…
  - BUT [וְ] - the even the COMPASSION of the WICKED is filled with CRUELTY!
  - Animals do NOT have a SPIRIT - they do NOT go to heaven…
  - But the KINDNESS of those who know Jesus - should extend to ALL of His creation…
  - Because our Heavenly Father also care about them - **Matthew 6:26**
- 10th - Hard working… vs. 11
  - He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread.
  - BUT he who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding!
  - The man who works hard [farm] - will always [imperfect] have full STOMACH..
  - BUT [וְ] - the person who chases after VANITY - come away with an empty HEART [לֵב]!
  - People like to TALK about the BIG payday - the answer right around the corner…
  - But they do not realize they are CHASING the WIND [nothing there] - **Ecclesiastes 2:11**
  - The answer is simple - just WORK hard - and we will never go hungry!
- 11th - Content… vs. 12
  - The wicked covet the catch of evil men - BUT the root of the righteous yields fruit!
  - The WICKED always [perfect] want to TAKE [steel] from each another…
  - BUT [וְ] - the root of the RIGHTEOUS is continually [imperfect] giving [נָתַן] to others!
  - The irony of WANTING things - is NOTHING will ever make us happy…

- There will always be a something NEWER - SHINER - BETTER we are meant to crave…
- Which is why those who COVET - will never be CONTENT!
- **Hebrews 13:5** - "Be content with such things as you have…"

○ 12th - Full of Good… vs. 13-14

- The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips - BUT the righteous comes through trouble.
- A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth.
- BUT the recompense of a mans hands will be rendered to him!
- The WICKED are trapped by their REBELLIOUS [פֶּשַׁע] words…
- And the REWARD for the works [hand] of a MAN [אָדָם] will come back to him…
- BUT [וְ] - the RIGHTEOUS [צַדִּיק] do NOT get into trouble…
- He will be filled with what is GOOD - because of the words [fruit] from his mouth [lips]!
- It is easy to say something - but it is impossible to take what we said back…
- Which is why we ask Jesus to guard out LIPS - so we do NOT say something we would regret!
- **Psalm 141:3** – "Take control of what I say - O LORD - and guard my lips."

● **7TH - LEGACY OF THE WISE… VS. 15-28**

○ 1st - Wise Counsel… vs. 15-16

- The way of a fool is right in his own eyes - BUT he who heeds counsel is wise.
- A fools wrath is known at once - BUT a prudent man covers shame!
- The FOOL always thinks he is going the RIGHT way…
- Yet he is quickly [that day] seen [יָדַע] getting ANGRY because he was wrong…
- BUT [וְ] - the one who LISTENS to ADVICE from others is WISE…
- And is therefore able to carefully avoid being put the SHAME!

- We are always SURE they CHOICE we are making is RIGHT - **Proverbs 14:12**
- But can easily be WRONG - so we should always seek GODLY counsel!

○ 2nd - Declaring truth…vs. 17-19

- He who speaks truth declares righteousness - BUT a false witness deceit.
- There is one who speaks like a piercing sword - BUT the tongue of the wise promotes health.
- The truthful lip shall be established forever - BUT a lying tongue is but for a moment!

- An HONEST [righteous] man will have [hiphil] tell the TRUTH…
- His WORDS [tongue] brings HEALING [רָפָא] to those who listen…
- And the TRUTH he speaks [lips] will NEVER go away [forever]
- BUT [וְ] - a FALSE witness can ONLY tell LIES…
- He speaks without thinking [rashly] - and his words cut [sword] those who listen…
- Yet his LYING words [tongue] will only last [cohortative] for a brief moment!
- I imagine if the Caesar [king] of Rome was asked how important his words were…
- He would think they would last forever - but few if any of his words survived…
- But what a fisherman [John] from galilee wrote down - millions can quote by heart!
- The words of ALL men fade fast - but the Word of the LORD endures forever - **I Peter 1:25**

o 3rd - Peaceful… vs. 20-21

- Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil - BUT counselors of peace have joy.
- No grave trouble will overtake the righteous - BUT the wicked shall be filled with evil!
- LIES fill the heart of the person who THINKS about EVIL…
- And because they think about EVIL - their lives are filled with EVIL…
- BUT [וְ] - JOY fills the heart of the RIGHTEOUS who PLAN [counsel] for peace…
- And no EVIL will be able to overcome them!
- If we have NO peace - we might want to look at what is in our HEART!

o 4th - Truthful… vs. 22-23

- Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD - BUT those who deal truthfully are His delight.
- A prudent man conceals knowledge - BUT the heart of fools proclaims foolishness!
- Those who speak LIES are an OFFENSIVE [abomination] to the LORD…
- And the heart [לֵב] of the FOOL loudly declares his FOOLISHNESS…
- BUT [וְ] - the LORD takes pleasure in those who tell the TRUTH…
- And the PRUDENT [cautious] man is careful [conceals] with what he says!
- We need to guard what we let out of our mouths - or else we will prove we are the FOOL!

o 5th - Authority… vs. 24

- The hand of the diligent will rule - BUT the lazy man will be put to forced labor!
- Those who are HARD working will RULE - BUT [וְ] the LAZY will have to work HARD!

- If I let someone borrow my PEN and they LOST it - I would NOT give them my phone!
- We are given more AUTHORITY - when we prove we can be FAITHFUL…
- Those who are hardworking - are in entrusted with greater RESPONSIBILTY!

- 6th - No depression… vs. 25
  - Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression - BUT a good word makes it glad!
  - FEAR in the heart [לֵב] of a man causes [hiphil] him to be pulled DOWN…
  - BUT [וְ] - a KIND [טוֹב] word can make him VERY [piel] happy!
  - Worry [FEAR] is the opposite of FAITH – people worry because they are not trusting in God…
  - If we know someone who is DEPRESSED - give them the GOOD word…
  - They have nothing to WORRY about - they just need to take it to Jesus - **Philippians 4:6**
- 7th - Good friends… vs. 26
  - The righteous should choose his friends carefully - FOR the way of the wicked leads them astray!
  - Look for GODLY [righteous] people to be your FRIENDS…
  - BECAUSE [וְ] - the way of the WICKED will cause you to do WANDER from God!
  - If we hang out with the wrong crowd - we are going to be negatively influenced...
  - Choose wisely who to spend time with - we will become just like them - **I Corinthians 15:33**
- 8th - Diligent… vs. 27
  - The lazy do not roast what he took in hunting - BUT diligence is mans precious possession!
  - A LAZY man will NEVER finish the Job [cook what they hunted]
  - BUT [וְ] - the greatest asset of the WEALTHY man is HARD work!
  - When Jesus died on the cross - He said it is FINISHED - **John 19:30**
  - But that does NOT mean we get to sit back and do NOTHING…
  - Paul would say he was what he was - an Apostle - by the Grace of God…
  - Yet he worked harder than ANYONE - but it his strength was the Grace of God working in him!
  - **I Corinthians 15:10** - "By the grace of God I am what I am… but I labored more abundantly than they all - yet not I - but the grace of God which was with me."
- 9th - Eternal life… vs. 28
  - In the way of righteousness is life - AND in its pathway there is no death!
  - The WAY of RIGHTEOUSNESS [צְדָקָה] leads to LIFE - there is no DEATH!

- Bottom line - there is only one way that leads to eternal LIFE!