

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

PART 6: WISDOM CONTRASTED WITH FOOLISHNESS

Introduction:

1. Three things are necessary to possessing true wisdom:
 - a. A proper knowledge of God
 - b. A proper respect for parents
 - c. A proper understanding of the world
 2. Proverbs provides wisdom that covers a wide variety of experiences in life.
 3. Throughout chapters 10 – 29, many lessons can be learned about choosing wisdom over foolishness.
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- I. Three Foundational Principles
 - A. 14:9 – The wise have a healthy understanding of and respect for sin.
 - B. 24:6 – The wise seek informed counsel and godly advice.
 - C. 27:12 – The wise exercise foresight (cf. 26:11).
 - II. Wickedness Contrasted with Righteousness
 - A. 11:17 – One's choices affect himself.
 - B. 11:22 – One's choices reflect upon God.
 - C. 12:10 – One's choices reveal his heart.
 - D. 16:27-28 – One's choices impact others.
 - E. 16:31 – One's choices influence a lifetime.
 - F. 24:16 – One's choices determine his success.
 - G. 28:1 – One's choices define his character.
 - H. 24:19-20 – One's choices decide his destiny.
 - III. Pride Contrasted with Humility
 - A. 11:2 – Pride brings shame, but humility is the result of wisdom.
 - B. 13:10 – Arrogance leads to quarrels, but the humble seek advice.
 - C. 16:18-19 – Pride precedes a ruinous fall, but the humble are content.
 - D. 22:4 – Humility is the path to true success.
 - E. 26:12 – False wisdom is actually pride, and the greatest of folly.
 - F. 27:2 – Pride produces bragging, but the humble are honored by others.
 - G. 28:13 – Pride covers sin, but the humble confess and forsake their wrongs.
 - IV. Laziness Contrasted with Labor
 - A. 14:23 – All talk and no work brings poverty.
 - B. 18:9 – Wasting time is just as wrong as wasting one's talents.
 - C. 19:24
 - D. 22:13 – For one who looks for an excuse, any excuse will do!
 - E. 24:30-34
 - F. 26:16 – One who refuses to work cannot be reasoned with.

Proverbs 10 – 29

- V. Anger Contrasted with Happiness
 - A. 13:12 – Happiness is fickle.
 - B. 14:13 – Laughter cannot cure all hurts and hides many.
 - C. 14:17 – Uncontrolled anger is unwise and despised.
 - D. 15:13 – Happiness is fleeting.
 - E. 15:18 – Uncontrolled anger causes fighting.
 - F. 15:30 – Happiness is dependent upon circumstance (encouragement).
 - G. 16:24 – Happiness is created by pleasant words.
 - H. 17:22 – Happiness is beneficial, even to one's physical health.
 - I. 18:14 – Happiness is strong, but it can be destroyed.
 - J. 19:11 – Anger under control creates peace.
 - K. 19:19 – Uncontrolled anger must be punished.
 - L. 25:28 – Rule over one's spirit (self-control) is key to happiness.

- VI. Punishment Contrasted with Reward
 - A. 10:7 – An evil legacy or a good memorial
 - B. 10:23-24 – That which one fears or that which one desires
 - C. 11:18 – Deception or certainty
 - D. 13:13 – Destruction or victory