

Proverbs 1:8 – 7:27; 31:1-31

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

PART 3: RESPECT FOR PARENTS

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 begins with instruction from a father and ends with teaching from a mother.
 3. The world today says that women do not need men and men do not need women.
 4. The world says that one parent is just as good as two, and maybe even better.
 - a. Sometimes there are circumstances that result in single-parent homes.
 - b. Children can be reared to godliness in such situations.
 - c. However, God's ideal – a godly father and mother – is the best arrangement for the home.
 5. The world says two fathers or two mothers can do just as well as a traditional family.
 6. We must remember that the standards and goals of the world are not the same as those of God or His people.
 7. God declares that children need the love, support, and guidance of a father and a mother (cf. Gen. 2:24; Exo. 20:12; Lev. 19:3; Deut. 5:16; 21:18-19; Ephesians 6:1-4).
 8. To possess true wisdom, one must fear the Lord and respect his or her parents.
- I. The Responsibilities of Parents
- A. Parents are responsible for training their children (Proverbs 22:6).
 - B. Of course, this means that they be taught the will of God (Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Ephesians 6:4).
 - C. Parents must know the Word of God.
 - D. Parents must keep the Word of God (Proverbs 3:1 – *note the word "my"*).
 - E. Do not underestimate the influence of godly parents (cf. Genesis 18:19; Jeremiah 35:13-15).
- II. The Duties of Children
- A. Children are to obey their parents (Ephesians 6:1).
 - B. Children are to honor their parents (Ephesians 6:2-3; Exodus 20:12).
 - C. Yet, the choice is an individual one...
 1. Proverbs 10:1
 2. Proverbs 13:1
 3. Proverbs 15:5, 20
 4. Proverbs 17:6, 21, 25
 5. Proverbs 19:13, 26-29
 6. Proverbs 23:22-26
 7. Proverbs 28:7
 8. Proverbs 30:11
 - D. However, we must remember that there are consequences to our actions...
 1. Proverbs 17:2
 2. Proverbs 28:24
 3. Proverbs 29:15
 4. Proverbs 30:17

- III. The Wisdom of Solomon as a Father to His Son
- A. In these passages, Solomon may be thinking of the instruction given to him by his father David (cf. 1 Kings 2:1-9; 1 Chronicles 22:5-19; 28:9-21).
 - B. However, he this advice was also for his son, Rehoboam, who would reign after Solomon. *{It was Rehoboam's rejection of God's wisdom that resulted in the division of the kingdom.}*
 - C. Proverbs 1:8-9 – Pay attention from a young age.
 - D. Proverbs 1:10-19 – Choose friends carefully.
 - E. Proverbs 1:20-33 – Listen to truth and wisdom.
 - F. Proverbs 2:1-9 – Work for truth and wisdom.
 - G. Proverbs 2:10-22 – Apply truth and wisdom.
 - H. Proverbs 3 – 4 – Remember truth and wisdom.
 - I. Proverbs 5 – Defend with truth and wisdom.
 - J. Proverbs 6 – Live daily with truth and wisdom.
 - K. Proverbs 7 – Respect truth and wisdom.