

I. Introduction and Review.

II. Your training in wisdom begins at home. v. 8-9

- A. Parents are to be the primary teachers of wisdom. v. 8 4:8-9 6:20**
- 1. Proverbs isn't just about the rod of discipline. Loving parental instruction was the expectation under the Old Covenant and is reaffirmed in the New Testament 4:3 Deut. 6:7f 4:9 Eph. 6:4**
 - 2. Both parents have a vital role in teaching children.**
 - a. The father is to take leadership in instructing his children. 4:3-4**
 - b. The mother also has a vital role in training them. 31:1,26 II Tim. 1:5 3:14-15**
 - 3. Children should listen respectfully to both of their parents. 15:5**
- B. The result of hearkening to your parents will be a beautiful life. v. 9 4:9 3:22**
- 1. Godly children are adorned by their parent's training (and are an adornment to their parents). Luke 2:51 John 19:27**
 - 2. God blesses those who honor their parents. Ex. 20:12 Eph. 6:3**
- C. Beware of substitute "teachers" and substitute "families".**
- 1. Parents should not abdicate their role in training their children to the State or to any other institution. v. 8-9.**
 - 2. Peers (gangs) should not become your primary social group. v. 10-19**
 - 3. The voice of wisdom is the voice of parental instruction. v. 20-33**

III. Refuse the appeal of ungodly companions. v. 10-19

- A. The world is portrayed according to its true (dangerous) nature.**
- 1. Criminals are so depraved that they have no regard for human life.**
 - 2. The wicked can make sin appear attractive and beneficial. 14:15 Ps. 73**
- B. Beware of the enticements of moral misfits. v. 10-14**
- 1. Senseless violence with no regard for human life (excitement). v. 11-12 Dt. 19:11**
 - 2. Financial gain (greed). v. 13 I Tim. 6:10 Pr. 28:19-20**
 - 3. Belonging (a substitute family). v. 14**
 - 4. Crime, violence, and gang life are the direct result of the breakdown of the family (which is the result of the loss of the fear of the LORD).**
- C. If you follow evil companions, you will reap destruction. v. 15-19**
- 1. Their acts are outrageously evil. v. 16 Isa. 59:7**
 - 2. They stupidly ruin their own lives. v. 17-18 Esther 7:9**
 - 3. They will perish. v. 19**
- D. Choose your friends wisely. I Co. 15:33 II Co. 6:14f Ps. 1:1**
- 1. Your companions will influence your character and your reputation. I Co. 15:33**
 - 2. Flee temptation. 5:8 Mt. 5:29 I Co. 10:12 II Tim. 2:22 Gen. 39:10,12**
 - 3. Also choose your heroes carefully.**
 - 4. Your primary social group (and influence) should be your family, not your peers**

IV. Heed the appeal of wisdom before it is too late. v. 20-33

A. Wisdom calls out to you. v. 20-23

- 1. The personification of wisdom: The soul's true lover (bride). 3:16-18 4:6-8 8:1f 9:1-6 In contrast to the seductions of lady folly. Chpt 5-7.**
- 2. She openly and urgently pleads with the lost. v. 20-21**
- 3. She appeals to three categories of fools. v. 22**
 - a. Naive. 1:4,10 7:7 8:5 9:4,6 27:12.
 - b. Fools. 15:20 Jn. 3:19-20
 - c. Scoffers. 9:7-8 15:12 14:9 19:28 21:24 Ps. 1:1 II Pet. 3:3-4
- 4. She promises blessing to those who repent. v. 23.**
 - a. She will pour out her spirit. Joel 2:28 Zech. 12:10 John 7:38
 - b. She will make God's Word clear. Not new revelation, but uses Word: illumines
 - c. The condition is that you would turn away from your folly and welcome God's instruction & reproof. Mt. 5:6

B. If you reject wisdom's appeal, you will reap calamity. v. 24-32

- 1. God's patience with fools will run out. v. 24-25 19:29 Is. 59:20 65:1f 66:4**
- 2. Those who reject Him will be judged without possibility of deliverance. v. 26-28 Wisdom has the last laugh. 3:34 Ps. 2:4 Dt. 28:63,66-67**
- 3. They shall reap what they sowed. v. 29-31 Gal. 6:7-8**
- 4. All their earthly security will prove to be worse than worthless. v. 32**
- 5. A picture of final judgement. Heb. 10:31 II Pe. 3:10f**

C. There is security for those who seek wisdom. v. 33 8:35 Psalm 1 Jn. 10:28

V. Concluding Applications. God calls out to you!

A. The voice of wisdom is the voice of God.

- 1. Lady wisdom has divine attributes. 8:1f Eph. 3:10 Ps. 2:4 Isa. 1:18f 65:1f 66:4**
- 2. God speaks to children through the wisdom of their parents. v. 8,33 3:11 15:5**
- 3. God cried out to Israel through the law and the prophets. Dt. 28:63,66-67 Jer. 11:11 Ezek. 8:18 II Chron. 36:3f Isa. 28:22**
- 4. Christ Jesus is Wisdom Incarnate who speaks to the world.**
 - a. In Him is the fulness of wisdom. v. 20 Col. 2:3 I Co. 1:30.
 - b. He openly and lovingly pleads with the lost to repent. v. 20-21 Mt. 23:37 11:28-30 John 18:20-21
 - c. He pours out His spirit and makes His Word known to all who *turn* to Him. v. 23 John 7:37-39 6:63 16:8-13 Joel. 2:28 I Co. 2:14
 - d. The day of mercy will pass and he will judge those who rejected Him. v. 24f Mt. 23:37b-39 21:33-44 John 7:34
 - e. Those who trust Him are safe in the day of judgement. v. 33 Heb. 2:15
- 5. Christians are the voice of Christ (Wisdom) to our lost world! Ro. 10:18**

B. God appeals to you today. Turn before it is too late! Isa. 1:18-20 55:6 II Co. 6:2

Exercise for Family Worship.

- 1. Who are the most important teachers in a young persons life? Why? v. 8**
- 2. How can parents carry out instruction in wisdom?**
- 3. What is the outcome when children hearken to their parents' teaching? v. 9**
- 4. Why do kids join gangs? v. 10-14**
- 5. What is the outcome of gang life? v. 15-19**
- 6. Who are your friends/companions? Should any changes be made?**
- 7. Whom does Lady Wisdom represent (personify)? v. 20-21**
- 8. To what three groups of people does she appeal? v. 22**
- 9. What blessings come to those who listen to wisdom? v. 23,33**
- 10. What are the consequences of failing to heed Wisdom's cry? v. 24-31**

For next time (April 16) please read Proverbs 2:1-22

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