

Practical Principles for Practical Living

Text: Proverbs 10:1-12

Introduction

In chapter 10, Solomon begins to give a number of “Proverbs” to his son (v.1a). He has spent the former chapters defining wisdom, and demonstrating its practice. He has warned his son concerning the “*strange*” woman (i.e., the harlot, prostitute, etc.).

Chapters 10-29 are a collection of practical tidbits of life instruction. He fires these bullets of wisdom in rapid succession. No doubt, he has hopes that at least a few of these sharp points will find their way into the heart and life of his son. For he knows that the practice of these practical point will enhance his life, and insure wisdom of life.

DEFINITION: Proverbs are “parables, sayings, ethical wisdom.”

We must remember that the Holy Spirit, through Solomon’s pen, divides the vast population of humanity into two groups. . .*The Wise*, and *The Fool*. In this collection of practical wisdom, Solomon begins to define the actions, character and lifestyle of these groups.

To assist in his defining of these groups, he uses a series of contrast. In chapter 10, and following, he will make a statement about the wise, and then say “*but*,” and give the opposite statement of a fool.

Notice the contrast as we learn some new *Life Principles*.

I. Fools Make _____ Kids (vv. 1-3). = Life Principle #20

A. They are a _____ to their parents (v.1).

1. Wisdom produces _____.

2. Foolishness produces _____.

B. They are _____ in their life (vv. 2-3) —*Notice 3 Comparisons*

1. Ill-gotten _____ (v.2a).

2. Right-living _____ (v.2b).

3. Right-focused _____ (v.3).

II. The Difference Between _____ & _____ is Work (vv. 4-5). =Life Principle #21

A. Slothfulness produces _____ (vv. 4a, 5b).

1. Idle hands make _____ hands (v.4a).

2. _____ instead of working makes shame (v.5b).

B. Diligence produces _____ (v.4b, 5a).

1. _____ hands make full hands.
2. _____, instead of sleeping, proves wisdom.

**III. Live Right & You Will Be _____ Right (v.7).
= Life Principle #22**

Two Examples:

- A. Paul - Lived right, and people today name their _____, "Paul."
- B. Nero - Lived wrong, and people today name their _____, "Nero."

IV. _____ Argue & Do Not Obey (vv. 8, 10b). = Life Principle #23

- A. The wise listen and take _____ (v.8a).
- B. The _____ fool always fails (v.8b).

**V. If You Don't Want To _____ Down; Don't Walk In _____
Places (vv. 9-12). =Life Principle #24**

- A. The _____ life is secure ("surely" means "safe, secure).
- B. The perverse life will be _____.

THOUGHTS:

- If you do not want to fall _____, then do not walk in spiritually slippery places.
- If you do not want to fall _____, then do not walk in morally slippery places.