

Who Has the Final Word?

Text: Proverbs 16:1-7

Introduction

In this passage, Solomon continues his observations on the contrast between the Godly and the ungodly.

As we continue to study this collection of tidbits of wisdom, we must classify ourselves into the category of either the Godly or the ungodly, the wise or the fool, or the righteous or the wicked.

Part of this classification is found in the way that one responds to God's leading in his life. Notice these unchangeable facts about how God directs in the lives of people. As we move into chapter 16, we are introduced to the next life principle. . .

Life Principle #58: God Rules!

This means that God is always in control. Notice that God rules in the. . .

I. Plans of Man (vv. 1-3).

A. God has the final _____ in man's plans (v.1).

B. God is the final _____ in man's actions (v.2).

The world says, "*Let your _____ be your guide.*" The Lord says, "*I have the final say!*" Man seems to think that right and wrong is determined by his own opinion or circumstances (cf. Pro. 16:25; 30:12). Yet, it is God who says "yea" or "nay" (cf. Jud. 17:6; 21:25; cf. note on Jud. 13:1). The nation of Israel thought they could ignore and flaunt the laws of God concerning marriage, morality, separation and worship (must like America). However, the judgment of God upon the nation ultimately proved that **God would have the final say!**

C. God is the final _____ of man's life (v.3, cf. Rev. 3:14, "*These things saith the Amen*").

"Too many people are saying, 'God bless what I'm doing,' instead of saying, 'God, help me to do what you are blessing.'"

II. Purposes of Man (vv. 4-6).

In these verses we see that God not only rules in man's plans, but also in his purposes. The heart that has ignored God and rebelled against His Word, will find that God will still have the final say.

A. Overrules man's _____ (v.4)

—God created the wicked, but He did not create them as _____.

—God created the person of the wicked, but He does not condone the _____ of the wicked.

B. Overthrows man's _____ (v.5).

C. Overcomes man's _____ (v.6).

— _____ our sin. "*Truth reveals our sin; mercy removes our sin*" (John Phillips).

— _____ us from sin ("*by the fear of the Lord*").

III. The Provision of Man (vv. 7-9).

A. Relationship with _____ (v.7).

Life Principle #59: _____

6 Ways to Get Along With People

1. _____ more and _____ less.

2. _____ more and _____ less.

3. _____ more and _____ less.

4. _____ more and _____ less.

5. _____ more and _____ less.

6. _____ more and _____ less.

(Dr. David Jeremiah - Turning Point radio broadcast - 10/09/95)

B. Relationship with _____ (v.8).

Life Principle #60: _____

C. Relationship with _____ (v.9).

—God determines the final _____ (cf. v.33).