

## More Marks of a Wise Man

Text: Proverbs 25:1-28

### Introduction

This chapter is a continuation of the thoughts of the previous chapter. There is a continued comparison of the life and actions of the wise man versus that of the foolish man. It is essential that these principles be studied and understood, because they are the difference between success and failure. The wise and foolish see things differently. They act differently, and they end differently.

Jesus illustrated this truth with His parable of the wise man's building and the foolish man's building (Matt. 7:24-27; Lk. 6:47-49). A casual reading of the two passages makes it appear that the only difference between the two men, was that one built on a rock and the other on the sand. However, Matthew uses the phrase "*founded upon a rock*" (Matt. 7:25), and Luke says the wise man "*digged deep*" (Lk. 6:48). The wise man did not build at a different *location*, but he built on a different *foundation*. The fool thought the only thing that mattered is what people saw. The wise man understood that the unseen is essential for supporting the seen. Thus, as we enter this chapter of Proverbs, the real depth of the wise man's life is seen.

Hezekiah copied what he learned from Solomon, arranged the proverbs of this chapter, and they have been included in our Sacred Text for our benefit and learning. The comparisons of the wise and foolish are continued.

### **I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Wise Man (vv. 1-5).**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ (v.1).
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 2-3).
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 4-5).

### **II. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Wise (vv. 6-14).**

The wise man will carefully guard his actions (cf. Pro. 4:23-27). He will live by wise principles, such as...

- A. Do not be guilty of self-\_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 6-7)
  - 1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ (v.6).
  - 2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ (v.7).
- B. Do not be guilty of quick\_\_\_\_\_ (v.8; cf. v.28; 16:32).
  - 1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ ("*Go not forth hastily to strive...*").
  - 2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ ("*lest thou know not what to do...*").
- C. Do not be guilty of \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 9-10; cf. Jam. 3).

### Principles for the Tongue

1. Use \_\_\_\_\_ words (vv. 9-10).
2. Use \_\_\_\_\_ words (vv. 11-12).
3. Use \_\_\_\_\_ words (v.13; cf. Isa. 50:4).

D. Do not be a \_\_\_\_\_ (v.14; cf. 27:2).

### III. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Wise (vv. 15-28).

In the remaining verses of this chapter, we find that a wise man's life will also be characterized as prudent. This means that he is careful and discerning in various actions of life.

A. Displays \_\_\_\_\_, and not pushiness (v.15).

—Soft and \_\_\_\_\_ words can accomplish much (cf. 15:1).

*“Hard words, we say, break no bones, and therefore we should bear them patiently; but, it seems, soft words do, and therefore we should, on all occasions, give them prudently.”* (Matthew Henry)

B. Exercises moderation in his \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 16-17; cf. Php. 4:5).

1. Does not overindulge in \_\_\_\_\_ (v.16).

2. Does not overstay his \_\_\_\_\_ (v.17).

C. Guards himself against wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 18-19; cf. 4:23).

1. The decision to say the wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (v.18).

2. The decision to trust the wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (v.19).

D. Understands how to deal with \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 20-24).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ people (v.20).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ people (vv. 21-22).

3. \_\_\_\_\_ people (vv. 23-24).

E. Seeks to maintain his \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 25-28).

1. By being an \_\_\_\_\_ (v.25).

2. By being \_\_\_\_\_ in his righteousness (v.26).

3. By being \_\_\_\_\_ and not self-promoting (v.27).

4. By being able to control his \_\_\_\_\_ (v.28).