

**Warnings to Live By**  
Text: Proverbs 29:1-27

Introduction

As we approach the closing chapters of the Book of Proverbs, we find further assessments concerning life. Solomon was man who “had it all,” and “did it all.” Yet, the close of his life found him a broken and sorrowing man (see Ecclesiastes).

In this chapter, Solomon seems to cover a multitude of topics. It is as though we are listening in to his private instruction to his son (cf. 2:1 and other verses that use the phrase, “My son...”). He was to tell his son to beware of various types of people.

This is Biblical principle. Paul told the Philippians, “*Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision*” (Php. 3:2). Jesus said to “*beware*” ten times in the Gospels. Paul told the Colossian church to, “*Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ*” (Col. 2:8). Paul even warned Timothy, “*Alexander the copper-smith did me much evil...Of whom be thou ware also*” (II Tim. 4:14-15). Who are some the types of people that Solomon warned his son about? Notice the...

I. \_\_\_\_\_ **Man** (v.1).

A stubborn man is a man that is set in his mind and ways and will not change regardless of the facts.

A. Stubbornness leads to \_\_\_\_\_ (v.1a).

B. Stubbornness leads to \_\_\_\_\_ (v.1b).

—Examples of this are plentiful throughout Scripture. See examples: II Chr. 36:16; Pro. 1:24-27; 6:15. What these examples teach us is that a stubborn man will not listen, and all that reproof does is make him more resolute in his stubbornness!

II. \_\_\_\_\_ **Man** (vv. 2-3).

A. Improper \_\_\_\_\_ (v.2). —You can recognize a sinful man by the \_\_\_\_\_ he makes.

B. Immoral \_\_\_\_\_ (v.3). —You can recognize a sinful man by the \_\_\_\_\_ he keeps.

—This type of life will bring \_\_\_\_\_ to those involved.

### III. Seducing Man (vv. 4-6).

A. The man who seduces with his \_\_\_\_\_ (v.4).

—This is an issue of \_\_\_\_\_. Solomon did not maintain his integrity. This was the very warning God gave would-be kings in Deuteronomy 17:17.

B. The man who seduces with his \_\_\_\_\_ (v.5; cf. Lk. 6:26).

—A flatterer is usually a \_\_\_\_\_.

C. The man who seduces with his \_\_\_\_\_ (v.6).

—Notice the outcome of the wicked life is a “snare,” but the righteous life is joy. No one ever regrets serving Jesus!

### IV. \_\_\_\_\_ Man (v.7).

A. Righteous men care about the plight of the \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Job 29:16; Psa. 41:1).

#### ILLUSTRATIONS:

(1) David’s treatment of Mephibosheth (II Sam. 9). David care concerning the poor is also evidenced by those he attracted to himself (I Sam. 22:2). David is called a “*man after God’s own heart*” (Acts 13:22).

(2) Paul’s treatment of Onesimus (Philemon).

(3) Samaritan’s treatment of the poor and beaten man (Lk. 10:30-35).

(4) Jesus’ treatment of blind beggar (Lk. 19:1).

B. Wicked men do not even want to \_\_\_\_\_ about the poor.

#### ILLUSTRATIONS:

(1) The priest and Levite’s ignoring of needy man in Luke 10:31-32).

(2) The rich man’s ignoring of Lazarus (Lk. 16).

NOTE: Jesus, who knew the wealth of Heaven, knew what it was to be poor and humble also. He who owned the stars, had to borrow a lad's lunch, a penny for an illustration, Peter's boat to preach from, and a donkey to enter Jerusalem on. He who was rich became poor, that we might be made rich in Him!

**V.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Man** (vv. 8-9).

- A. Cares not for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the State (v.8).

ILLUSTRATION: Scornful and prideful men destroy the State. Phillips points out, "Even a scornful Belshazzar was boasting and blaspheming, the military engineers in the Persian army were diverting the flow of the Euphrates, giving them the river-bed as a highway into the city of Babylon."<sup>1</sup>

- B. Cares not for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the sage (v.9).

—A contentious person, and never able to learn.

**VI.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Man** (v.10; cf. v.27).

- A. The wicked hate the \_\_\_\_\_ of the righteous.

- B. The righteous seek the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wicked.

QUOTE: "*Bad men hate their best friends. . . Good men love their worst enemies.*"  
(Matthew Henry)

**VII.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Man** (vv. 11-14).

- A. Speaks at the wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (v.11).

—A wise man doesn't tell all he knows (cf. 15:28; 17:27-28).

- B. Follows the wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 12-14).

—Liars believe \_\_\_\_\_ (v.12).

—"Everything rises or falls upon \_\_\_\_\_." (Lee Roberson)

**VIII.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Man** (vv. 15-27).

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<sup>1</sup> John Phillips, *Exploring Proverbs, Volume Two* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2002), 494.

In these verses we find the need and results for discipline. Here we see the burden from failure to discipline the child, and we see the blessings from proper discipline of the child. The undisciplined boy produces a stubborn and difficult man.

A. An \_\_\_\_\_ son (vv. 15-16).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (v.15).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (v.16).

B. An \_\_\_\_\_ son (vv. 17-18). — Discipline produces...

1. Honor toward \_\_\_\_\_ (v.17).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ for success (v.18a).

—A lazy, undisciplined child will \_\_\_\_\_ develop a work ethic and goal for life.

3. Happiness in \_\_\_\_\_ (v.18c).

—Being obedient equals being \_\_\_\_\_.