Let's Worship God

14th-19th June 2021 Proverbs





Monday - Proverbs 11:30-31 - Winning Souls

The whole life of a righteous man - his influence, his prayers, his thoughts, his actions, his words - is to be a tree of life to those around him, healing, comforting, encouraging, and drawing them to Christ. For wisdom isn't about us - it's about glorifying our God. And God has determined that He is glorified by men and women coming to faith in Jesus Christ. How amazing is God's love for us! Salvation isn't just something God does on the side in between ruling the universe, it's a priority for Him, and He commands it to be one for His people as well. He who wins souls is wise. He who speaks to others about Christ, seeking to draw them to God, is bringing glory to our great Saviour. "Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever." (Daniel 12:3)

Verse 31 is a frightening warning. The righteous receive their due on earth. What does this mean? It means that God punishes us for our sins in this life, but like a father punishes his children, lovingly, for their best good and growth. But when we die, that's it - we don't have to deal with the consequences of our sin any more. But the ungodly - that's a different story. God does not look at them as a Father, but as Judge and Executor. And when they die, they must bear the consequences of their sin forever. If the desire to be wise doesn't spur us on to speak to men and women about Christ, surely our love for them and fear for their safety, in the face of this terrible warning, will.

Questions

- 1. How can we be a tree of life to others?
- 2. How can we make speaking to others of Christ a priority?
- 3. How does God treat His people when they sin?
- 4. How does God treat the unbeliever in eternity?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for the salvation of our family and friends.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

No one is established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous will never be moved. Proverbs 12:3

Praise: Psalm 73 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Tuesday - Proverbs 12:1-3 - A Firm Foundation

To gain knowledge to gain wisdom, we have to practice self-discipline. We have to hold ourselves back from sin, and we have to practice Godly habits - reading God's Word, prayer, worship, service to Christ. love of God and others, obedience, the list goes on and on. To develop this Godly wisdom we have to, by God's grace, train ourselves. But a man or woman who think they know all the answers, who hate to admit when they've been wrong, and can't stand being corrected, are never going to grow. Instead of gaining wisdom, they are gaining in stupidity.

Goodness is a fruit of the Spirit, so the 'good man' Solomon speaks of in verse 2 is a man full of the Spirit. It is not the man himself, but it is God working in him that makes him good. He is a blessing to those around him, and he brings pleasure to God. Do you want to be good? Then pray to God to make you so, to work in your life, and fill you with His Spirit. In contrast to the good man, is the deceitful man, one who lies and tricks others. Instead of showing love and kindness, he only cares about himself, and he is condemned by God.

A crafty man, a wicked man, they may seem to do well for a time. They may seem rich or successful or popular. But it always ends. Sometimes their lives crumble to pieces around them, and sometimes they just die, thinking they have achieved everything only to come face to face with God and find they have nothing. But a righteous man has built his foundation on God. No matter what storms rage around him, he will not be moved. And when death comes to him, the works that he has done for Christ follow him as he enters into his heavenly inheritance. (Rev. 14:13)

Questions

- 1. How can we be better disciplined?
- 2. How can we be good?
- 3. What foundation should we build upon?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that God would fill us with His Spirit and make us good.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

No one is established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous will never be moved. Proverbs 12:3

Praise: Psalm 74 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Wednesday - Proverbs 12:4-8 - Good and Evil

What is a wife of noble character like? She is faithful, pure, submissive, steadfast in her love for her husband, delighting to see him honoured, respected, and loved, forgiving, prudent in managing the family, and kind and considerate to all around her. A woman like this is a woman of strength, a virtuous woman, and a treasure beyond price to the man with whom she belongs. Contrast this with the quarrelling, nagging, perhaps unfaithful wife. Instead of being a help to her husband, she is a shame and disgrace, driving him away from what is good. Marriage is a gift from God to a man and a woman enabling them to better work together to serve Him. A Godly wife and a Godly husband encourage each other and help each other in their love and obedience of God.

Verses 5-7 trace the workings of good and evil to their source - thoughts. The Godly man thinks righteous thoughts. He measures everything by the Word of God, trusting God and not himself. But the wicked's thoughts are evil and deceitful, seeking their desires and not God's. And then it is but a short trip from the mind to the mouth, where what we think comes out in what we say. The wicked speak to hurt others if it benefits them. But the righteous use their words for good - to tell others of the life to be found in Christ. And what happens in the end? The wicked will be destroyed. Their temporary pleasure will end, and they will be forgotten. But the righteous will have a place in eternity.

The world loves to call evil good, but even among those who hate God there is often a kind of grudging respect for a faithful, wise man. And when the evil of a man's heart is shown for what it really is, we all usually have enough of the image of God left in us to recoil from it. How much more will the pure God of the universe see our faithfulness and our sin.

Ouestions

- 1. What is a Godly wife like?
- 2. How can we use our words for good?

Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks for our Godly wives.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

No one is established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous will never be moved. Proverbs 12:3

Praise: Psalm 75 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Thursday - Proverbs 12:9-11 - Animals and Work

A man may be despised by those who are richer than he is, but he is still far better off than those who proudly pretend they have great wealth, when in reality they have nothing. In the same way a man or woman who knows the Lord Jesus Christ is far better off, though the world hates them, than men or women who think they have all they need but do not know Christ.

God's Word gives us guiding principles for all things, even the smallest matters we often find dealt with in the Bible. And here in verse 10 is a teaching from God on how we are to treat animals. Animals are given to man to rule over, for his use, comfort, and food, but not for him to treat carelessly or cruelly. Does this mean we are to save every animal's life? No, sometimes the more merciful thing to do is to kill an animal, sometimes we need to kill animals to provide for or protect ourselves. But we are never to treat them cruelly or neglect the ones we own. Why? Because we are to imitate God who cares for all His creatures and treats them all fairly.

From caring for animals to working the land, God has much to say about "ordinary" jobs. Again he puts forth His principle that hard work is the tool he uses to give us abundance. God does not usually work through get-rich quick plans. Those who spend their lives dreaming of ways to make money, but never actually settle down to the hard work involved, will see nothing come of all their plans. Hard work is the key to growth in our lives, growth in God's kingdom, and growth in our care of our family. At the end of the day, we can have all the great plans for the future there are, we can dream up visions of our churches being full, of ourselves spending hours with God, of faithfulness in family worship day after day, but until we actually hunker down and get busy, nothing will come of it.

Questions

- 1. How are we to treat animals?
- 2. Why does God use hard work to give us blessings?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would work hard for the kingdom of God.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

No one is established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous will never be moved. Proverbs 12:3

Praise: Psalm 76 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Friday - Proverbs 12:12-14 - Tongues

There is something that is part of humanity that makes us always a bit dissatisfied with where we are. It constantly pushes us onward to something we don't yet have. Perhaps it comes from the fact that this world is not our home; we were made to be in the presence of God, and until that happens, we'll never quite feel finished or complete - something will always be missing. But the believer and the unbeliever deal with this feeling of incompleteness, this desire for more, in two totally different ways (or at least they should). The unbeliever fills his life with things, or people, or whatever gives him a passing happiness, but he is always craving more. The more he has, the more he wants, and none of it satisfies. But the Godly man pushes forward to have a closer and closer relationship with God; he understands that the closer he gets to his Lord the more his fundamental needs will be satisfied. And as he finds his joy in the Lord, he bears much fruit.

Even while the wicked pursue greater wickedness, they get into trouble. What they say often reveals them for who they really are, and God brings judgment upon them. But using our mouths for Godly purposes, though it may seem dangerous at the time, often is used by God to deliver us from trouble. Daniel's enemies used their mouths to attack him, and they ended up thrown in the lion's den themselves when the king saw their wickedness for what it was. Joshua and Caleb used their words, in the face of great opposition, to tell the Israelites to enter the Promised Land, and God blessed them for it, saving them only, out of all their generation, from dying in the desert. From the things we do to the things we say, when we use our hands and mouth for God, He will richly bless us. The littlest thing we do or say out of love of God will be abundantly and eternally repaid.

Questions

- 1. How can we satisfy our longings for something better and greater?
- 2. How do the wicked get themselves in trouble?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would use our speech to honour God and help others.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

No one is established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous will never be moved. Proverbs 12:3

Praise: Psalm 77 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Saturday - Proverbs 12:15-17 - Anger and Lies

The pride of a fool keeps him from being wise. He thinks he knows everything, he needs no direction, asks no advice, is stubborn in his own way, because it is his own, and follows it to destruction. But what a proof of wisdom is a teachable spirit! It is the sign of a humble man who sees himself for who he really is - a sinner saved by grace, who has much to learn.

We all recognise the kind of foolish man described in verse 16. A quick-tempered man or woman, constantly annoyed about someone or something. Ever quick to criticise other people, no one enjoys being around them. The root of this foolishness is pride as well, for when we truly understand how sinful we are, it give us a more merciful and gracious spirit toward others. Instead of having the attitude of, "Can you believe how stupid they are? Are they incapable of doing this right? How dare they treat me that way?"; we would think "I've made plenty of mistakes in my time, said things I didn't mean. I'm not sure I could do better. There's probably a lot going on with them right now. I wonder how I can help." Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit. When you feel your temper about to break out, pray instantly to God who can calm the storms in our hearts. Keep the example of Christ before your eyes, who when He was insulted, kept silent.

Verse 17 almost seems too obvious to be a proverb. But the Scripture doesn't just deal with deep truths, but stamps the every-day truths with the seal of God, reminding us to be obedient. Truth and lies are not just qualities, but a distinctive mark of the two types of people in the world - believers and unbelievers.

Questions

- 1. What can keep us from being wise?
- 2. What should we do if we start to get annoyed with someone?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

No one is established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous will never be moved. Proverbs 12:3

Praise: Psalm 78 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!

Let's Worship God is produced by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.