

PROVERBS 23 - Wise Sayings of Solomon!

3/8/25 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com www.ptwente.com

Pro 23:1 When you sit down to eat with a ruler, Consider carefully what is before you;

Pro 23:2 And put a knife to your throat If you are a man given to appetite.

- When they come around with those fancy trays of foods, don't just gobble up everything. Watch what you do. Those little hors d'oeuvres and all, they are not really to fill up on.

Pro 23:3 Do not (11x in chap 23) desire his delicacies, For they are deceptive food.

- Now I will tell you that it is true. The hors d'oeuvres I have had; they are deceitful delicacies. They look good many times. Be aware of being "wined and dined."

Pro 23:4 Do not overwork to be rich; Because of your own understanding, cease!

- Do not let being rich be your goal in life. Jesus said, (***Mat 6:19-20***) "*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; [20] but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.*" The problem again with riches is the same as the problem with the flesh, you never can get enough.

Pro 23:5 Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.

- That is your own conniving and all, to get rich. A fallacy that is quite common is that riches are the cure to every problem. Wrong. Thus, there is that hope of fulfillment, there is that hope and its illusion. He said, "You're setting your eyes upon something which isn't." Riches sprout wings and fly away!

Pro 23:6 Do not eat the bread of a miser (an evil or stingy man), Nor desire his delicacies;

- This is an eye that is towards evil. There are other scriptures, Jesus said, (***Mat 6:23***) *But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness.* He warns about having an eye towards evil, or evil things. Do not eat the bread of a miser who has an eye towards evil." *Nor desire his delicacies.* Watch out for the ruler's deceitful foods, and his dainties, and watch out for the dainty food from the man whose eye is towards evil.

Pro 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you.

- Solomon is talking about the kind of a guy like that. "Eat, man eat!," but he says, "His heart is not with you. Be careful!"

Pro 23:8 The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up, And waste your pleasant words.

Pro 23:9 Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, For he will despise the wisdom of your words.

- You are just wasting your words. You have a guy that is a fool, if you try and reason with him, try to rationalize with him, you are just wasting your time. So, it is an exhortation, "Don't waste your time trying to instruct a fool."

Pro 23:10 Do not remove the ancient landmark, Nor enter the fields of the fatherless;

- We have had this several times. They were highly respected. This is actually under the law. It goes back to Deuteronomy. They, they had certain laws that they would chant, and the people would say, "Amen! Amen!," and one of the laws that they would sort of chant was the law of, "Remove not the landmark!," and the people would respond, "Amen! Amen!." *Nor enter not into the fields of the fatherless:* Do not take advantage of those that have no defense.

Pro 23:11 For their Redeemer is mighty; He will plead their cause against you.

- They do have a defense. God watches over the fatherless, God watches over the poor.
- He will plead their cause with you. You are going to be contending with God if you try to take advantage of the fatherless or the poor! The bible says, *(Isa 45:9a)* "Woe to him who strives with his Maker!"

Pro 23:12 Apply your heart to instruction, And your ears to words of knowledge.

- I can hear a dad saying that to a son. "Now son, apply your heart to instruction. Give heed to words of knowledge." Again, Solomon is giving advice concerning correcting your children, that I do not suggest that you follow in this day.

Pro 23:13 Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a rod, he will not die.

Pro 23:14 You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell.

- If you beat him with a rod, you may deliver his soul from hell, but you'll end in jail. It is sad that there is child abuse, and it is a terrible, horrible thing. Because of that, they have had to make restrictive laws, but again, it is, they overstep their bounds, and they take away the parent's rights to their own children.

Pro 23:15 My son, if your heart is wise, My heart will rejoice—indeed, I myself;

- How a father rejoices in the wisdom of his son!

Pro 23:16 Yes, my inmost being will rejoice When your lips speak right things.

Pro 23:17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day;

- In the next chapter, we read, "Don't be envious against evil men," and then verse nineteen of chapter twenty-four, "Neither be envious of the wicked." You are not to envy sinners. But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day. Walk in the fear of the Lord. The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; the fear of the Lord is that fear that comes from standing in awe of the presence of the Creator of the universe. I love it. That is what the fear of the Lord is. It is actually the reverence, the awe of God as we become aware of His wisdom, His power, His love.

Pro 23:18 For surely there is a hereafter, And your hope will not be cut off.

- Walk in the fear of the Lord, considering the end, looking towards the end. That is always the key! As I walk down the path of life, the path that I have chosen, where will it lead me? When you get to the end, what is at the end of that path? If you walk the path of iniquity, unrighteousness, the path of sin, the path of the flesh, the end of it is destruction. But if you walk the path of righteousness, daily walking in the fear of the Lord, the end of the path is eternal life with Jesus. There is an end. He says, "Realize that!"

Pro 23:19 Hear, my son, and be wise; And guide your heart in the way.

Pro 23:20 Do not mix with winebibbers (drunkards), Or with gluttonous eaters of meat;

- ***(1Co 6:9-11)*** Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, [10] nor thieves, nor covetous, ***nor drunkards,*** nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. [11] And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Pro 23:21 For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, And drowsiness will clothe a man with rags.

- Do not get caught up in that crowd, drunkards, gluttons. Jesus warns us concerning the days before His return, the last days, that we should be careful not to be caught up unaware, by surprise. As the result, He said, of gluttony, and of drinking, so that, that day would catch you by surprise. The exhortation of Jesus there in Luke, and warning against the same two things, gluttony, and drinking. That can sort of cloud your judgment. Solomon said, “It’ll bring you to poverty son.”

Pro 23:22 Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.

- Listen to your father! Do not despise your mother!

Pro 23:23 Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.

- That is the valuable thing in life. That is what you really want to buy. Gain the truth, gain wisdom, gain knowledge, gain understanding.

Pro 23:24 The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, And he who begets a wise child will delight in him.

- The father who has a son who is walking in righteousness. What a joy that is! What a blessing, to have a son that walks in righteousness, and is wise. John writing in his epistle said, ***(3Jn 1:4) I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.***

Pro 23:25 Let your father and your mother be glad, And let her who bore you rejoice.

- He is warning now.

Pro 23:26 My son, give me your heart, And let your eyes observe my ways.

- My son listen to me, give me your heart. Give me the attention of your heart. Let your eyes observe my ways. Know this.”

Pro 23:27 For a harlot is a deep pit, And a seductress (adulterous woman) is a narrow well.

Pro 23:28 She also lies in wait (as a bandit) as for a victim, And increases the unfaithful among men.

- The *seductress* offers great satisfaction but ultimately doesn’t deliver, lacking the true intimacy and trust that build in marriage a satisfying sexual experience.

Pro 23:29 Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions (strife)? Who has complaints? Who has wounds (bruises) without cause? Who has redness of eyes?

- Now we have a little discourse upon wine. We already read, “Wine is a mocker, and strong drink is raging, and he who is deceived thereby is not wise.” Now he speaks more concerning this subject of wine.

Pro 23:30 Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed (not with water) wine.

Pro 23:31 Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls (goes down) around smoothly;

- That is, after the fermentation has taken place, when it begins to move in the cup. The fermenting process. In other words, after it has been fermented, do not look upon it. They called the juice wine. But here is the warning about once it has been fermented, and it takes on its alcoholic content.

Pro 23:32 At the last (in the end) it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper.

Pro 23:33 Your eyes will see strange things, And your heart will utter perverse things.

Pro 23:34 Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, saying:

- *Like the one who lies down* - The person who abuses alcohol or drugs will drown in their sin and misery.

Pro 23:35 "They have struck me, but I was not hurt; They have beaten me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake, that I may seek another drink?"

- The tragedy of the alcoholic. The man who has been captured by alcohol and its problems.

Pro 23:17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day;

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART — Kristianson, Maranatha Singers – 2:54

*Create in me a clean heart, oh God And renew a right spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, oh God And renew a right spirit within me
Cast me not away from Thy presence, oh Lord Take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation And renew a right spirit within me (2x)
And renew a right spirit within me*

**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH/PERSECUTED CHURCH; SCHOOLS; POLICE/MILITARY;
ISRAEL:**

President Trump; Vice President Vance; Speaker Mike Johnson; Senate Leader John Thune; Supreme Court; Marco Rubio-State; Scott Bessent-Treasury; Pete Hegseth-Defense; Pam Bondi-Attorney General; Doug Burgum-Interior; Brooke Rollins-Agriculture; Howard Lutnick-Commerce; Lori Chavez-DeRemer-Labor; Robert Kennedy, Jr.-Health & Human Services; Scott Turner-HUD; Sean Duffy-Transportation; Chris Wright-Energy; Linda McMahon-Education; Doug Collins-VA; Kristi Noem-Homeland Security; Lee Zeldin-E.P.A.; John Ratcliffe-C.I.A.; Tulsi Gabbard-National Intelligence; Russell Vought-Management and Budget; Kelly Loeffler S.B.A.; Elise Stefanik-U.N; Jamieson Greer-U.S. Trade; Kash Patel-F.B.I. Director