July 17

READ PROVERBS 19–21

CHAPTER 19

BETTER is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

- 2. Also, *that* the soul *be* without knowledge, *it is* not good; and he that hasteth with *his* feet sinneth.
- 3. The foolishness of man perverteth his way: and his heart fretteth against the LORD.
- 4. Wealth maketh many friends; but the poor is separated from his neighbour.
- 5. A false witness shall not be unpunished, and *he that* speaketh lies shall not escape.
- 6. Many will intreat the favour of the prince: and every man *is* a friend to him that giveth gifts.
- 7 All the brethren of the poor do hate him: how much more do his friends go far from him? he pursueth *them with* words, *yet* they *are* wanting *to him*.
- 8. He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: he that keepeth understanding shall find good.
 - 9. A false witness shall not be

unpunished, and *he that* speaketh lies shall perish.

- 10. Delight is not seemly for a fool; much less for a servant to have rule over princes.
- 11. The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and *it is* his glory to pass over a transgression.
- 12. The king's wrath *is* as the roaring of a lion; but his favour *is* as dew upon the grass.
- 13. A foolish son *is* the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife *are* a continual dropping.
- 14. House and riches *are* the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife *is* from the LORD.
- 15. Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.
- 16. He that keepeth the commandment keepeth his own soul; but he that despiseth his ways shall die.
- 17. He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.
 - 18. Chasten thy son while there

is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

- 19. A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment: for if thou deliver *him*, yet thou must do it again.
- 20. Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.
- 21. *There are* many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.
- 22. The desire of a man *is* his kindness: and a poor man *is* better than a liar.
- 23. The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.
- 24. A slothful *man* hideth his hand in *his* bosom, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.
- 25. Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware: and reprove one that hath understanding, *and* he will understand knowledge.
- 26. He that wasteth *his* father, and chaseth away *his* mother, *is* a son that causeth shame, and bringeth reproach.
- 27. Cease, my son, to hear the instruction *that causeth* to err from the words of knowledge.
 - 28. An ungodly witness scorneth

judgment: and the mouth of the wicked devoureth iniquity.

29. Judgments are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools.

CHAPTER 20

WINE is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

- 2. The fear of a king *is* as the roaring of a lion: *whoso* provoketh him to anger sinneth *against* his own soul.
- 3. *It is* an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.
- 4. The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; *therefore* shall he beg in harvest, and *have* nothing.
- 5. Counsel in the heart of man *is like* deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.
- 6. Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?
- 7. The just *man* walketh in his integrity: his children *are* blessed after him.
- 8. A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes.
- 9. Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?

- 10. Divers weights, *and* divers measures, both of them *are* alike abomination to the LORD.
- 11. Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work *be* pure, and whether *it be* right.
- 12. The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.
- 13. Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, *and* thou shalt be satisfied with bread.
- 14. *It is* naught, *it is* naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth.
- 15. There is gold, and a multitude of rubies: but the lips of knowledge *are* a precious jewel.
- 16. Take his garment that is surety *for* a stranger: and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.
- 17. Bread of deceit *is* sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.
- 18. *Every* purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.
- 19. He that goeth about *as* a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.
- 20. Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.

- 21. An inheritance *may be* gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed.
- 22. Say not thou, I will recompense evil; *but* wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.
- 23. Divers weights *are* an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance *is* not good.
- 24. Man's goings *are* of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?
- 25. *It is* a snare to the man *who* devoureth *that which is* holy, and after vows to make enquiry.
- 26. A wise king scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them.
- 27. The spirit of man *is* the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.
- 28. Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy.
- 29. The glory of young men *is* their strength: and the beauty of old men *is* the gray head.
- 30. The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so *do* stripes the inward parts of the belly.

CHAPTER 21

THE king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *as* the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

- 2. Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.
- 3. To do justice and judgment *is* more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.
- 4. An high look, and a proud heart, *and* the plowing of the wicked, *is* sin.
- 5. The thoughts of the diligent *tend* only to plenteousness; but of every one *that is* hasty only to want.
- 6. The getting of treasures by a lying tongue *is* a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.
- 7. The robbery of the wicked shall destroy them; because they refuse to do judgment.
- 8. The way of man *is* froward and strange: but *as for* the pure, his work *is* right.
- 9. *It is* better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house.
- 10. The soul of the wicked desireth evil: his neighbour findeth no favour in his eyes.
- 11. When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise: and when the wise is instructed, he receiveth knowledge.
- 12. The righteous *man* wisely considereth the house of the

- wicked: but God overthroweth the wicked for their wickedness.
- 13. Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.
- 14. A gift in secret pacifieth anger: and a reward in the bosom strong wrath.
- 15. *It is* joy to the just to do judgment: but destruction *shall be* to the workers of iniquity.
- 16. The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.
- 17. He that loveth pleasure *shall be* a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.
- 18. The wicked *shall be* a ransom for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright.
- 19. *It is* better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.
- 20. There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.
- 21. He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.
- 22. A wise *man* scaleth the city of the mighty, and casteth down the strength of the confidence thereof.

- 23. Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.
- 24. Proud *and* haughty scorner *is* his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.
- 25. The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.
- 26 He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.
- 27. The sacrifice of the wicked *is* abomination: how much more,

when he bringeth it with a wicked mind?

- 28. A false witness shall perish: but the man that heareth speaketh constantly.
- 29. A wicked man hardeneth his face: but *as for* the upright, he directeth his way.
- 30. *There is* no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.
- 31 The horse *is* prepared against the day of battle: but safety *is* of the LORD.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Again in today's reading Solomon emphasizes the tongue. In chapter 21:23 we read, "Whoso keepeth his mouth keepeth his soul from troubles." All too often the tongue gets us into trouble!

It has been said that God wants the Christian to live in such a manner that he would not be afraid to sell his talking parrot to the town gossip! How often we bring unnecessary trouble down upon our heads because of what we say. Better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to open one's mouth and prove it!

Peter often experienced the displeasure of the Lord because of his thoughtless words. On one occasion he took Jesus aside and began to rebuke Him because the Saviour had foretold of His soon suffering and death. In the midst of this rebuke, Jesus suddenly turned and said, "Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offense unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men" (Matthew 16:23). In the very next chapter, Peter sins again by wanting to build three Tabernacles: one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. In the Upper Room (John 13) Peter blurted out his refusal to allow Christ to wash his feet. Then, beside an early morning fire, Peter denied the Saviour three times. May David's prayer become our prayer: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

When we speak, we should be sure that we speak the truth, with kindness, and that what we speak is needful to be said. If we examine our words carefully in relation to truth, kindness, and need, then truly God has control of our tongue.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, then an house full of sacrifices with strife" (Proverbs 17:1).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 25: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 7.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1674

THE BIRTHDAY OF ISAAC WATTS.

Isaac Watts was a famous hymn writer. He wrote the beloved song, "At the Cross." Sing this song today, maybe in your family devotions, maybe in your private devotions, but sing it and thank God for the many songs He has given us through Isaac Watts.

AT THE CROSS

Alas! and did my Saviour bleed?. And did my Sov'reign die? Would He devote that sacred head For such a worm as I? Was it for crimes that I had done, He groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide, And shut his glories in When Christ, the mighty Maker, died For man the creature's sin.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe: Here, Lord, I give myself away, 'Tis all that I can do.

Chorus:

At the cross, at the cross
Where I first saw the light,
And the burden of my heart rolled away,
It was there by faith
I received my sight,
And now I am happy all the day.

1821 FLORIDA WAS CEDED TO THE UNITED STATES BY SPAIN.

Pray for God's people in Florida.

1917

THE DATE OF THE CONVERSION OF CHARLES E. FULLER.

Charles E. Fuller was the founder of the "Old Fashioned Revival Hour" and was used of God for many years to bless the lives of many.

THE BIRTHDAY OF DOLPHUS PRICE.

Dolphus Price is a successful preacher in Florida. Since we are thinking of him, our thoughts turn to pastors. Pray for your pastor today. He needs your prayers and your support. If he is a faithful Bible preacher, thank God for him. If he does not believe the Bible, then, of course, you should seek membership in a church pastored by a man who believes the

Word of God.

1945

THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1794

ABSALOM JONES AND HIS FOLLOWERS DED- ICATED AFRICAN CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS in Philadelphia. On August 12, 1794, the St. Thomas parishioners affiliated with the Protestant Episcopal Church.

1794

RICHARD ALLEN ORGANIZED PHILADEL-PHIA'S BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPIS-COPAL CHURCH.

1862

CONGRESS AUTHORIZED PRESIDENT TO ACCEPT BLACKS FOR MILITARY SERVICE.Congress passed the Second Confiscation Act, which freed the slaves of all rebels.

1863

UNION TROOPS, WITH FIRST KANSAS VOL-UNTEERS PLAYING LEADING ROLE, ROUTED REBELS AT HONEY SPRINGS, Indian Territory. Black troops captured colors of a Texas regiment.

1959

DEATH OF SINGER BILLIE HOLIDAY (44) New York City.

1967

RACE RIOT, CAIRO, ILLINOIS. National Guard mobilized.

1981

FULTON COUNTY (ATLANTA) GRAND JURY INDICTED WAYNE B. WILLIAMS, a twenty-three-year-old photographer, for the murder of two of the twenty-eight black youths killed in a series of slayings and disappearances in Atlanta. Williams denied the

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

DIFFICULT	PROBLEMS	SOLVED: '	'I HAVE	NO F	FFLING"

(Assignment 25)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five

times each evening, for the next seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning," pagain near the front of this book.)
Justified by faith. () Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Justified by His Grace. () Romans 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.
Justified by His Blood. () Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
Justified by Believing (Never by feeling). () John 5:24 Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath eve lasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.
Justified in the name of the Lord Jesus. () 1 Corinthians 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the nam of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.