

CHAPTER 25

THESSE *are* also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

2. *It is* the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings *is* to search out a matter.

3 The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings *is* unsearchable.

4. Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer.

5 Take away the wicked *from* before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness.

6. Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great *men*:

7 For better *it is* that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen.

8. Go not forth hastily to strive, lest *thou know not* what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame.

9 Debate thy cause with thy neighbour *himself*; and discover not a secret to another:

10 Lest he that heareth *it* put thee to shame, and thine infamy turn not away.

11. A word fitly spoken *is like* apples of gold in pictures of silver.

12 *As* an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, *so is* a wise reprovcr upon an obedient ear.

13. *As* the cold of snow in the time of harvest, *so is* a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters.

14. Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift *is like* clouds and wind without rain.

15. By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone.

16. Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it.

17. Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbour's house; lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee.

18. A man that beareth false witness against his neighbour *is* a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow.

19. Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble *is like* a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.

20. As he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, *and as* vinegar upon nitre, so *is* he that singeth songs to an heavy heart.

21. If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:

22 For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee.

23. The north wind driveth away rain: so *doth* an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.

24. *It is* better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.

25. As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so *is* good news from a far country.

26. A righteous man falling down before the wicked *is as* a troubled fountain, and a corrupt spring.

27. *It is* not good to eat much honey: so *for men* to search their own glory *is not* glory.

28. He that *hath* no rule over his

own spirit *is like* a city that is broken down, *and* without walls.

CHAPTER 26

AS snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.

2. As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.

3. A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.

4. Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.

5 Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.

6. He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, *and* drinketh damage.

7 The legs of the lame are not equal: so *is* a parable in the mouth of fools.

8 As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so *is* he that giveth honour to a fool.

9 As a thorn goeth up into the hand of a drunkard, so *is* a parable in the mouth of fools.

10. The great *God* that formed all *things* both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.

11. As a dog returneth to his

vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.

12. Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? *there is* more hope of a fool than of him.

13. The slothful *man* saith, *There is* a lion in the way; a lion *is* in the streets.

14. As the door turneth upon his hinges, so *doth* the slothful upon his bed.

15. The slothful hideth his hand in *his* bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.

16. The sluggard *is* wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

17. He that passeth by, *and* meddleth with strife *belonging* not to him, *is like* one that taketh a dog by the ears.

18. As a mad *man* who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death,

19 So *is* the man *that* deceiveth his neighbour, and saith, Am not I in sport?

20. Where no wood is, *there* the fire goeth out: so where *there is* no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

21 As coals *are* to burning coals, and wood to fire; so *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.

22 The words of a talebearer *are* as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

23. Burning lips and a wicked heart *are like* a potsherd covered with silver dross.

24. He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him;

25 When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for *there are* seven abominations in his heart.

26 *Whose* hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the *whole* congregation.

27. Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.

28. A lying tongue hateth *those that are* afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.

CHAPTER 27

BOAST not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

2. Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips.

3. A stone *is* heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath *is* heavier than them both.

4 Wrath *is* cruel, and anger *is* outrageous; but who *is* able to stand before envy?

5. Open rebuke *is* better than secret love.

6 Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

7. The full soul loatheth an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.

8. As a bird that wandereth from her nest, so *is* a man that wandereth from his place.

9. Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so *doth* the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.

10 Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: *for* better *is* a neighbour *that is* near than a brother far off.

11. My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, that I may answer him that reproacheth me.

12. A prudent *man* foreseeth the evil, *and* hideth himself; *but* the simple pass on, *and* are punished.

13. Take his garment that is surety for a stranger, and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.

14. He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him.

15. A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike.

16 Whosoever hideth her hideth the wind, and the ointment of his right hand, *which* bewrayeth *itself*.

17. Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

18. Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.

19. As in water face *answereth* to face, so the heart of man to man.

20. Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

21. As the fining pot for silver, and the furnace for gold; so *is* a man to his praise.

22. Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, *yet* will not his foolishness depart from him.

23. Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, *and* look well to thy herds.

24 For riches *are* not for ever: and doth the crown *endure* to every generation?

25 The hay appeareth, and the tender grass sheweth itself, and herbs of the mountains are gathered.

26 The lambs *are* for thy clothing, and the goats *are* the price of the field.

27 And thou shalt have goats' milk enough for thy food, for the

food of thy household, and for the maintenance for thy maidens.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

The theme of chapter 25 is anger. Notice that there is a righteous anger against sin. Verse 23 teaches that an angry look will silence a gossip. In Mark 3:5 Jesus "looked round about on them with anger." Paul advised us, in Ephesians 4:26, to "be ye angry, and sin not." Of course, our anger should be at sin and not at people.

Proverbs 27:4 warns us that anger is cruel and outrageous; it can lead to physical hurt and even murder (Matthew 5:22). Angry parents can permanently wound the body and emotions of a child. Sinful anger is of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21); it does not accomplish God's will (James 1:19,20). Satan gets into our lives through our angry words and attitudes (Ephesians 4:26,27); so God warns us to put off anger (Ephesians 4:31, Colossians 3:8). An angry man is a dangerous friend (Proverbs 22:24 and 29:22); an angry woman makes a poor wife (Proverbs 21:9 and 25:24).

Notice how we are to deal with anger, both in our lives and in the lives of others. Verse 8 tells us to show forth patience. Verses 15-28 tell us that we should also use gentleness. "A soft tongue breaketh the bone." We should also use kindness. Finally, we should use self-control. The Christian who practices self-control will not be destroyed by anger, nor will he destroy others. Compare verse 28 with chapter 16:32. "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city."

The ability to be angry about the right matters helps to build character; but, when anger causes our tempers to flare up, it becomes destructive. Godly anger is right, but unrighteous anger is like a forest fire when it gets out of control, and the destruction is devastating. Psalm 19:14 still applies, "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer."

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, then he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool" (Proverbs 19:1).

BIRTHDAY TODAY

RUBY LAMBERT

JULY 19

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 25: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1938

PAUL RADER DIED.

Paul Rader pastored the Moody Church in Chicago from 1914 until 1921, and then he founded the Chicago Gospel Tabernacle, which was for years the evangelistic center of Chicago. He was one of the greatest evangelical, soul-winning Christian leaders of the 20th century and one of the greatest preachers who ever lived. He also was a song writer having written the little chorus, "Only believe." Let us sing it now.

ONLY BELIEVE

*"Only believe, only believe;
All things are possible
Only believe."*

*"Only believe, only believe;
All things are possible,
Only believe."*

1910

HAROLD BOON WAS BORN AT NEW CASTLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

He has served as president at Nyack Missionary College and has been very influential in the Christian and Missionary Alliance movement.

1908

THE BIRTHDAY OF MYRON BOYD.

He has served as the radio pastor of the "Light and Life Hour," which has reached millions. Some think he was the most famous Free Methodist personality of our century. His headquarters have been at Winona Lake, Indiana. Pray for God's blessings upon the Free Methodist brethren, and then upon those who preach the Gospel by radio.

1965

SYNGMAN RHEE DIED AT HONOLULU, HAWAII.

Rhee was from 1919 to 1960 the President of Korea. He was the country's first President and sup-

posedly was a Christian. Some say the Korean Christianity owes much to his leadership. Pray for your President today. You may not agree with him, but we can all agree that he is our President. Let's pray for him.

1865

DR. CHARLES MAYO WAS BORN.

This is the famed Rochester, Minnesota, surgeon. This gives us a splendid opportunity to thank God for our doctors and for the progress medical science has made.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1941

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT APPOINTED FEP COMMITTEE.

1941

FIRST U.S. ARMY FLYING SCHOOL FOR BLACK CADETS dedicated at Tuskegee, Alabama.

1966

GOVERNOR JAMES A. RHODES DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY IN CLEVELAND and dispatched National Guard troops to riot-torn Hough district.

1967

RIOT, DURHAM. National Guard mobilized.

1979

PATRICIA R. HARRIS, SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, NAMED SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE.

The Story of the Psalms

PSALMS 61

AUTHOR: David

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

The story is unknown.

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD'S PEOPLE:

This was a Psalm sung at matins, which means it was a morning Psalm. It was sung and recited as a morning prayer, and the word "matins" comes from the word "maturus" which means "ripe" or "mature." From this word "matins" we get our word "daytime" and the word "matinee," which means a daytime performance. This Psalm was sung at the dawn of a new day. Its reading would certainly improve the start of a new day for any of God's children. God wants the first things. He wants first place in our lives. He wants the first day of the week, the first tithe of the income. He wants the first hour of the day. How sweet to meet Him in the morning before we have met another! How sweet to speak first to Him before we have spoken to another! How sweet to walk with Him before we have walked with another!

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I HAVE NO FEELING"

(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," page xiii 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 everlasting 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 name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.