

Wisdom Before Kings and Judges

Proverbs 25 pt 1

“Don’t boast about yourself before the king, and don’t stand in the place of the great;.” -Proverbs 25:6

As you reflect on your approach, what are some common ways people boast in themselves to look and feel important?

*Social M_____ Flexing *Name Dropping *S_____ Dropping

*Skill Showcase *Achievement H_____

“Boasting is the outward form of the inner condition of pride.”

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1 These too are proverbs of Solomon, which the men of King Hezekiah of Judah copied.

The next chapters contain Proverbs that were written by King Solomon, but collected by Hezekiah’s advisers. They were kept some 270 after Solomon’s death.

Where is Hezekiah’s story told in the Bible?

*____ Kings 18-20; ____ Chronicles 29-32; Isaiah 38-39

Although he was the son of the wicked King Ahaz, King Hezekiah reigned over a time of national spiritual revival (715 -687 BC); he added these to the previous collection of proverbs, having found these yet to be published proverbs of Solomon.

➤ 1 Kings 4:32-34

2-3 It is the glory of God to conceal a matter and the glory of kings to investigate a matter. As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings cannot be investigated.

What is the main idea of this wise saying?

*The thought process of those in power are _____ to assess.

#1 Comparison: Glory of God & Glory of Kings

*God: Eternal, everlasting, divine creator *Kings: Temporary, man, ruler

#2 Comparison: Conceal & Investigate

*Conceal: keep secret, cover, to hide *Investigate: to find out, search, seek, try

#3 Comparison: The h_____ are high and the the e_____ is deep;

Heaven: First heaven, atmospheric above earth; Second heaven, outer space; Third heaven, God's dwelling.

Does anyone truly know the height of the heavens and the depth of the earth?

Solomon's point here is there is a profound size difference between the two.

A King's glory/honor is the seek out the Lord; If he does this, Solomon is generally saying he would have access to knowledge and wisdom that is unavailable to others. Therefore his heart cannot be investigated.

Since the thought process of those in power are difficult to assess, should we follow them blindly? Why is this not an absolute rule?

* _____ *Even kings can be I _____, uniformed, or oblivious

➤ Acts 5:29

4-5 Remove impurities from silver, and material will be produced for a silversmith. Remove the wicked from the king's presence, and his throne will be established in righteousness.

What is the main idea of this wise saying?

***The King and his _____ makes a difference.**

Notice the comparison:

Removing impurities from silver & Removing the wicked from the kings presence

What is the process of a silversmith removing impurities from silver?

*Calcining: burning off impurities

*Roasting: Transforming silver dioxide into native silver

*Cupellation: Separating base metals from noble metals

*The miller Process: Removing silver and base metals from gold by piping chlorine gas through the molten metallic mixture.

*Parkes process: Adding zinc to molten lead bullion to remove silver and form insoluble compounds that float to the top.

When the metals go through this process, it produces material (silver). Solomon says, so it is with the company of a king. No nation can have a righteous king bless the

people until the all of the wicked counselors and corrupt advisors and banished from the cabinet.

➤ Isaiah 1:25; Malachi 3:3

“The difference between a good life and a bad life is how well you walk through the fire.”

When does the silversmith know all of the impurities are gone?

*When he _____ his _____. Zechariah 13:9

What is the blessing of allowing God to remove the dross out of the kings life?

*His throne will be _____ in righteousness.

➤ Luke 1:52

6-7 Don't boast about yourself before the king, and don't stand in the place of the great; for it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here!" than to demote you in plain view of a noble.

What is the main idea of this wise saying?

***Be careful of self _____! Proverbs 27:2**

How can we show humility instead of boasting?

*Give credit to _____ *Share lessons not just wins *Ask more than you t____

*Celebrate quietly *Let actions _____ louder than words

*Encourage others

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up as you are already doing.”-1Thessalonians 5:11

Why is promoting yourself so dangerous?

*It invites p_____ shame. Luke 14:8-11

for it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here!" than to demote you in plain view of a noble.

➤ Matthew 23:12; James 4:10

What is one thing you learned that you are willing to share with someone else?

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. Everyone should look not to his own interests, but rather to the interests of others.”-Philippians 2:3-4