

Wisdom before Kings and Judges

Proverbs 25 pt 4

“Trusting an unreliable person in a difficult time is like a rotten tooth or a faltering foot.” -Proverbs 25:19

What are some signs of a trust worthy person?

*They follow through *They own their m_____ *They keep your c_____

*They are consistent *They listen without j_____

*They set healthy boundaries

“Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters.”

● Wisdom before Kings and Judges pt 4

18 A person giving false testimony against his neighbor is like a club, a sword, or a sharp arrow.

What does it mean to give a false testimony?

*L_____ in a formal setting such as a court case.

What damages could be done to a person based off of a false testimony?

*Wrong c_____ *Ruined reputation *Broken h_____

➤ James 3:6-8

This is considered a heinous offense since it involves dishonesty and an attack on an innocent person. Lying about a person is sinful enough. To lie during an investigation or trial can cause major harm to the victim in so many ways.

King Solomon is saying, giving a false testimony against someone is as much as an attack as hitting them with a w_____. **“like a club, a sword, or a sharp arrow.”**

How should we as believers handle our tongues?

*Encourage *L_____ *Sing hymns *Speak t_____

➤ Matthew 12:36-37; Ephesians 4:25; 1 Peter 3:10

19 Trusting an unreliable person in a difficult time is like a rotten tooth or a faltering foot.

What does it mean to be unreliable?

*Not reliable, undependable, or untrustworthy; something or someone that cannot be depended on or trusted to perform consistently or accurately. Faithless

This proverb is also known as a statement of general wisdom or common sense. Although the lesson may seem obvious, there is still a lesson in hearing them stated.

What is the key to understanding this proverb? *Hint: a crisis*

* _____

Whenever we are in a crisis it can be tempting to take unusual risks.

Can you think of some risks you might take out of desperation?

*Trusting someone known to be a l____, fraud, or a t_____.

Notice the comparisons: Suddenness of betrayal

*Rotten t_____ *Faltering f_____

Who in the Bible might be able to relate to this more than anyone? ____: 6:15-17

Instead of trusting in an unreliable person, who should we put our trust in?

*The _____

➤ Psalm 118:8-9; Jeremiah 17:5-6; John 2:24-25

20 Singing songs to a troubled heart is like taking off clothing on a cold day or like pouring vinegar on soda.

What is the lesson of this proverb?

❖ Don't try to _____ happiness in moments of sorrow.

King Solomon is teaching us to be mindful of how we respond to each others sorrow. This is not an absolute rule for all situations. There are times when it makes sense to take off clothing on a cold day, such as if it is soaked with water. Songs can help cheer a person in mourning, in the right time. However, when someone is sad and discouraged, it is inappropriate to assume a simple song will make them feel better.

Not only is singing inappropriate, but certain comments can be off putting.

“At least it wasn’t something worse”

“There’s a reason for everything”

What are the effects of using overly simple measures to provide “comfort”?

*They can be viewed as insensitive and in_____.

*Discomforting; **taking off clothing on a cold day**; clothing keeps a body warm.

*Agitation; **pouring vinegar on soda**; Washing soda was used for cleaning and preserving. Adding vinegar to soda would cause an energetic reaction, but nothing else. Both the vinegar and soda were lost and unusable.

How can we provide comfort to those who are hurting?

*Be fully p_____

*Listen without trying to solve

*Offer gentle s_____

*Meet their needs

*Create safe s_____

➤ Psalm 34:18; 73:26; 147:3; 2 Cor. 1:3-4

21-22 If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

How does our flesh encourage us to handle our enemies?

*Fight

*Publicly calling them _____

*Trying to undermine them

*Making them the v_____

*Competing, comparing, constant bickering

How does King Solomon encourage us to handle our enemies?

*Show c_____ and l_____

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink

What is the purpose of showing compassion and love instead of hate?

*It diffuses their need for r_____ *Contrast their inappropriate behavior

*May lead to self reflection and a change of h_____

for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.

As we show compassion, we have to be careful of doing good with malicious intent. Remember, we do good because we are called to do so.

“Yet do this with gentleness and reverence, keeping a clear conscience, so that when you are accused, those who disparage your good conduct in Christ will be put to shame.”-1 Peter 3:16

Name one thing you can do to show compassion and love towards your enemies.

*F_____

➤ Mark 12:31; Luke 6:27-28; 1 Peter 3:9

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

“For if you forgive others their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you as well.
But if you don’t forgive others, your Father will not forgive your offenses.”
-Matthew 6:14-15