

## 39. PROVERBS 13 – CONTRASTS BETWEEN THE RIGHTEOUS AND WICKED.

### Proverbs 13:12–19

#### 3. Their hopes and fears.

##### Frustration vs Fulfilment

<sup>12</sup> Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: But *when* the desire cometh, *it is* a tree of life.

- Hope \_\_\_\_\_: You want it, but you can't have it.

**Example:** Just about every rock ballad, ever. "I'm all out of love, I'm so lost without you..."

**Example:** crucified hope!

**Luke 24:21** But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.

**Dejected!** *But then...*

**Luke 24:27** And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

**Dynamic!** So...now they are FULL. Back to Jerusalem – double time!

**Luke 24:32** And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

- Hope \_\_\_\_\_: You're so excited, you just cant hide it"

"It is a **tree of life.**"

**Proverbs 13:19** The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul: But *it is* abomination to fools to depart from evil.

**Proverbs 17:22** A merry heart doeth good *like* a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

The tree of life is a big deal in the Word of God. You see it throughout the Bible. **Gen 2:9 to Rev 22.**

*In Proverbs so far...*

- **Wisdom**

**Proverbs 3:18** She *is* a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: And happy *is every one* that retaineth her.

- **Fruit of the righteous**

**Proverbs 11:30** The fruit of the righteous *is* a tree of life; And he that winneth souls *is* wise.

We saw that for the NT believer, that fruit looks like **Galatians 5:22–26; Ephesians 5:9–11**

Fruit bearing is the result.

**Philippians 4:17** Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

- **A wholesome tongue! Prov 15:4**

##### Faith vs Failure

<sup>13</sup> Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: But he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.

##### Concerning the Word of God.

- Destruction vs Reward.

**KEY: The Word of God contains warnings and promises.**

**Genesis 2:16–17** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: <sup>17</sup> But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

**Genesis 4:6–7** And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? <sup>7</sup> If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

- Joash and Jehoiada illustrate this proverb (see **2 Kings 11–12; 2 Chronicles 24**).

- Despising the Word.

Do you have a \_\_\_\_\_ view of the Word of God or do you \_\_\_\_\_ it with corrupt Greek manuscripts?

Do you let the Word \_\_\_\_\_ or do you \_\_\_\_\_ it to your own \_\_\_\_\_?

**2 Peter 3:16** As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

Do you submit to the Word or \_\_\_\_\_ it?

**Luke 22:34** And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

<sup>14</sup> The law of the wise *is* a fountain of life, To depart from the snares of death.

- In vs 14, the pattern goes from \_\_\_\_\_parallelism to \_\_\_\_\_parallelism.
- **The fountain of life.** It is also a big theme in the Word.

When you find a wise person to instruct you – you are BLESSED!

**Proverbs 10:11** The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: But violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

**Proverbs 14:27** The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, To depart from the snares of death.

**Proverbs 16:22** Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: But the instruction of fools *is* folly.

### The snares of death.

**John 10:10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

**2 Corinthians 2:11** Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

### Example:

**2 Samuel 18:32-33** And the king said unto Cush, *Is the young man Absalom safe?* And Cush answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do *thee* hurt, be as *that* young man *is*.<sup>33</sup> And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

We see in David's sorrow the meaning of this proverb: "The way of transgressors is hard." David was suffering for his own sin. When pronouncing judgment on David for the murder of Uriah, Nathan had prophesied, "The sword shall never depart from thine house" (2 Samuel 12:10). And just as David had pronounced judgment on the man in Nathan's parable—"He shall restore the lamb fourfold" (2 Sam 12:6)—four of David's sons were struck down. The first to die was the infant born to Bathsheba (2 Sam 12:15–18). Then Absalom murdered Amnon because David was unwilling to punish Amnon for raping Tamar (2 Sam 13:1–39). Then Joab murdered Absalom, although doubtless Joab viewed the act as an execution (2 Sam 18:14). Finally Solomon executed Adonijah because he raised the standard of rebellion (1 Kings 2:13, 24–25).

Alexander Whyte described David's heartbroken wail over Absalom:

Yes, that is love, no doubt. That is the love of a broken father, no doubt. But the pang of the cry, the innermost agony of the cry, the poisoned point of the dagger in that cry is remorse. I have slain my son! I have murdered my son with my own hands! I neglected my son Absalom from a child! With my own lusts I laid his very worst temptation right in his way. It had been better Absalom had never been born! If he rebelled, who shall blame him? I, David, drove Absalom to rebellion. It was his father's hand that stabbed Absalom through the heart. O Absalom, my murdered son!

Yet "good understanding giveth favour." David weathered the terrible Absalom storm. Because David had a good understanding of the grace and greatness of God, he bowed under God's chastening hand and poured out his sorrows in his Psalms. Thus he remained a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22), the greatest and best of all Israel's kings and the one against whom all the later Judean kings would be measured. God's favor remained with him to the end.<sup>5</sup>

### How to escape death!

**John 4:14** But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

*Compare post millennial access.*

**Revelation 21:6** And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

<sup>5</sup> John Phillips, [Exploring Proverbs 1–19: An Expository Commentary](#), vol. 1, The John Phillips Commentary Series.