

## 47. PROVERBS 15 – CONTRASTS BETWEEN THE WISE AND FOOLISH.

### Their Worship and Prayer. Proverbs 15:8-9

#### 1. God's view of their \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>8</sup> The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the Lord: But the prayer of the upright *is* his delight.

**Proverbs 15:29** The Lord *is* far from the wicked: But he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

- The sacrifice of the wicked – **Example:** Cain, Saul – types of antichrist.

**1 John 3:12** Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

\_\_\_\_\_ worship of God when in \_\_\_\_\_ to the Word of God is offensive to God.

**1 Samuel 15:22–23** And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams. <sup>23</sup> For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from *being* king.

15:8b - Do you worship but don't care what the Word declares over your life?

**Proverbs 28:9** He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, Even his prayer *shall be* abomination.

**Psalm 51:16–17** For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give *it*: Thou delightest not in burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

*What is God looking for in us?*

**Proverbs 21:3** To do justice and judgment *is* more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

**Micah 6:7** Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, *Or* with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn *for* my transgression, The fruit of my body *for* the sin of my soul?

**John 4:23–24** But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

- We can worship Him right because of Calvary! The result?

**1 Peter 2:5** Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

**Romans 12:1–2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**Hebrews 13:15-16** By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name. <sup>16</sup> But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

**Philippians 4:18** But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things *which were sent* from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

**Philippians 2:17** Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

- Prayer of the upright. **Examples:** Hannah 1 Samuel 1; Jabez 1 Chronicles 4; Publican Luke 18; etc.

#### 2. God's view of their \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>9</sup> The way of the wicked *is* an abomination unto the Lord: But he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.

- Why? What was described as the 'sacrifice' of the wicked? Here, it is their '**way**.'
- Sacrifice (vs 8) and way (vs 9)**

*What are the ways of the wicked?*

**Proverbs 6:16–19** These six *things* doth the Lord hate: Yea, seven *are* an abomination unto him: <sup>17</sup> A proud look, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup> An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, Feet that be swift in running to mischief, <sup>19</sup> A false witness *that* speaketh lies, And he that soweth discord among brethren.

**Proverbs 11:20** They that are of a froward heart *are* abomination to the Lord: But *such as are* upright in *their way are* his delight.

15:9b - When the heart is toward the Lord that changes – you want to be with those that want to be with you.

- Agreement with God is key to your walk with God.

**Prayer (vs 8) and following (vs 9)**

**John 14:15** If ye love me, keep my commandments.

**John 14:23–24** Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. <sup>24</sup> He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

**1 Timothy 6:11** But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

**Their Correction. Proverbs 15:10–12**

**1. \_\_\_\_\_ for the backslider.**

<sup>10</sup> Correction *is* grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: *And* he that hateth reproof shall die.

- Some hate correction – even when would help them.

Much punishment and correction is built into the very sin that people pursue.

**1 Corinthians 11:28–30** But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup. <sup>29</sup> For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. <sup>30</sup> For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

- God corrects His own!

**Hebrews 12:5–11** And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: <sup>6</sup> For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. <sup>7</sup> If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? <sup>8</sup> But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. <sup>9</sup> Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? <sup>10</sup> For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure; but he for *our* profit, that *we* might be partakers of his holiness. <sup>11</sup> Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

- **Problem:** Some people never \_\_\_\_\_.

**Proverbs 10:17** He *is in* the way of life that keepeth instruction: But he that refuseth reproof erreth.

- Even Christ learned by suffering.

**Hebrews 5:8** Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord.**

<sup>11</sup> Hell and destruction *are* before the Lord: How much more then the hearts of the children of men?

- God sees everything. Even the dead in hell. Luke 16:18-31.

**Psalms 139:8** If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*.

*How bad is hell?*

**Matthew 5:29–30** And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Any who do not repent of sin and submit to the Saviour will die in their sin and spend eternity suffering there. God sees it all.

- We God's heart for the lost.

**Romans 9:1–3** I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, <sup>2</sup> That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

**Jude 22–23** And of some have compassion, making a difference: <sup>23</sup> and others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

- God sees your heart as well.

**John 2:25** And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

**Hebrews 4:12–13** For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. <sup>13</sup> Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things *are* naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

**Revelation 2:23** And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ and the scorner.

<sup>12</sup> A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: Neither will he go unto the wise.

- Why? They love their sin. People self-justify.

**Proverbs 9:7-8** He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: And he that rebuketh a wicked *man* getteth himself a blot. Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: Rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

**Proverbs 14:6** A scorner seeketh wisdom, and *findeth it* not: But knowledge *is* easy unto him that understandeth.

Do you love reproof? Will you go to those with proven wisdom?

**Hebrews 13:7** Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of *their* conversation.

**Hebrews 13:17** Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that *is* unprofitable for you.

### Their Heart. Proverbs 15:13–17

#### 1. Happy vs \_\_\_\_\_ heart.

<sup>13</sup> A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

- Your heart condition shows on your face.

**Proverbs 14:30** A sound heart *is* the life of the flesh: But envy the rottenness of the bones.

**Proverbs 18:14** The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; But a wounded spirit who can bear?

- There is a right place for this!

**Psalms 51:16–17** For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give *it*: thou delightest not in burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

- God binds up the broken! **Luke 4:18-19**

**Isaiah 61:1** The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are bound*;

## 2. Understanding vs. \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>14</sup> The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: But the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness.

**Proverbs 15:2** The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: But the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

*What is in you is what comes out of you!*

## 3. \_\_\_\_\_ vs feasting.

<sup>15</sup> All the days of the afflicted *are* evil: But he that is of a merry heart *hath* a continual feast.

- We need sustenance!

**Nehemiah 8:10** Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for *this day is holy* unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

*Start with...*

**1 Peter 2:2** As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

*Develop to...*

**Hebrews 5:14** But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

*Result of a merry heart?*

**Acts 16:25** And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

**2 Corinthians 4:8–16** *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup> Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. <sup>11</sup> For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup> So then death worketh in us, but life in you. <sup>13</sup> We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; <sup>14</sup> Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present *us* with you. <sup>15</sup> For all things *are* for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. <sup>16</sup> For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day.

**1 Peter 4:12–13** Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: <sup>13</sup> But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

- \_\_\_\_\_ with the Lord is still your best \_\_\_\_\_ in life!

<sup>16</sup> **Better** *is* little with the fear of the Lord **Than** great treasure and trouble therewith.

More "better... than" wisdom!

(12:9; 15:16, 17; 16:8, 16, 19, 32; 17:1; 19:1, 22; 21:9, 19; 22:1; 25:7, 24; 27:5, 10; 28:6)

**Example:** Luke 16, Lazarus. He had little (a beggar) but he had the Lord!

<sup>17</sup> **Better** *is* a dinner of herbs where love is, **Than** a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

- You can be rich and miserable.
- The stalled ox or fattened calf was used for great celebration feasts! Matt 22:4; Luke 15:23