

54. PROVERBS 16 – THE CHALLENGE TO LIVE IN RIGHTEOUS WISDOM.

Proverbs 16 continued. Vs 6-7

6. Our _____.

Proverbs 16:6–9 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: And by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil.

- 6a. KEY: It is by God's _____ that the need for God's mercy is _____.

Psalm 19:7–9 **The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:** the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. ⁸The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. ⁹**The fear of the LORD is clean**, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

Psalm 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

2 Timothy 2:20–21 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. ²¹**If a man therefore purge himself from these**, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

- 6b. The _____ of "the fear of the Lord!"

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is **wisdom**; and to depart from evil is **understanding**.

Proverbs 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

KEY: You can only _____ wickedness if you have no _____ of God.

Example: Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah's warning.

2 Chronicles 19:5–7 And he set judges in the land throughout all the fenced cities of Judah, city by city, ⁶ And said to the judges, **Take heed what ye do:** for ye judge not for man, but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment. ⁷**Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God**, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

- Wisdom's warning to _____ the fear of the LORD.

Proverbs 1:20–33 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: ²¹She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, ²²How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? ²³Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. ²⁴Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; ²⁵But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: ²⁶I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; ²⁷When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. ²⁸Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: ²⁹For that they hated knowledge, **and did not choose the fear of the LORD:** ³⁰They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. ³¹**Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.** ³²**For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.** ³³But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

Proverbs 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: Fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

- God's heart on the issue.

Ezekiel 33:11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

7. Our _____.

⁷When a man's ways please the Lord, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

- 7a. Ways pleasing.
- In **Psalm 69** we learn that our _____ of God is pleasing to Him.

Psalm 69:30–31 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. ³¹This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs.

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.** ²⁴God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

- Obeying authority is pleasing to the Lord.

Colossians 3:20 Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

- In 1 Kings 3, Solomon's _____ of humility and dependence on God pleased the LORD.

Micah 6:6–8 Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? 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? ⁸He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and **what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?**

- Example: Balaam. **Numbers 22-24.**

What was happening in that story? God was aiming Israel's enemy to be at peace with them.

Numbers 24:1 And when **Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel**, he went not, as at other times, to seek for enchantments, but he set his face toward the wilderness.

Since Balaam couldn't curse God's people, he **taught** Balak how to get Israel to curse _____

Revelation 2:14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

Numbers 25:1–3 And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. ²And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. ³And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.

Balaam's name goes down in infamy and disgrace.

Jude ¹¹Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and **ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward**, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

- 7b. Our enemies at peace with us?
- The Scriptures clearly teaches that we will have enemies and enmity in this present _____
2 Timothy 3:11–12 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. ¹²Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
Here is why!

John 15:18–20 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. ²⁰Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

John 7:7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.

So, have we found here a _____ in God's Word?

The promise is this. This enemy that you _____, God will make them to be at peace with you.

Whether in _____ or the _____.

- Example: Daniel.

Daniel 1:5–9 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king. ⁶ Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: ⁷ Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abed-nego.

⁸ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. ⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

This is why we pray the way we do! 1 Tim 2:1-8

1 Timothy 2:1–4 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; ² For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. ³ For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; ⁴ Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

At the end of everything, it is simply our job to live pleasing to the Lord.

It is the Lord's job to either convict and convert your enemy, or to remove them.