**Living Wisely – Pr. 29**

**Focal Truth: Those who fear God have life & honor**

29: 13 – *the poor man and the oppressor have this in common, the Lord gives light to the eyes of both*

29:25 – *the fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts the Lord will be exalted.*

29:26 – *many seek the king’s favor, but justice for man comes from the Lord*

**Observations**

**The consequence of unteachableness – 29:1**

*One oft reproved may become stiffnecked, but he will be suddenly broken beyond repair Aramaic*

Pr. 28:14 – *he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity*

Ex. 9:35 – *Pharoah’s heart was hardened and he did not let the sons of Israel go, just as the Lord had spoken through Moses*

2 Ch. 36:11, 13 – *Zedekiah was twenty – one years old when he became king…he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the Lord God of Israel*

Heb. 3:7 – ff – *therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as when they provoked. Me, as in the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tested me and saw my works for forty years…*

**Steps to hardening the heart**

* Refusing to listen to God’s truth & commands
* Refusing to believe & trust God for the best
* Rebelling in selfish desire & satisfaction

**The consequence of wise living – 29:2 – 4**

**The consequence of flattery – 29:5**

**The consequence of sin – 29:6**

*An evil man’s offenses are a trap for himself, but the righteous sing out joyously – Aramaic*

**The singing of the righteousness**

Acts 16:24 – 25 – *he threw them into the inner prison & fastened their feet in stocks. But*

*About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the*

*prisoners were listening to them…*

Micah 7:7 -8 – *as for me, I will watch expectantly for the Lord, I will wait for God of my*

*salvation. My God will hear me. Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy, thought I fall I will*

*rise; thought I dwell in darkness, the Lord is a light for me*

Always are the evil days in the world, always good days in the Lord - Augustine

**The consequence of righteousness – 29:7**

**The consequence of wise choices – 29:8 -11**

*Scoffers inflame a city, but the wise allay anger – Aramaic*

*When a wise man enters into litigation with a fool there is ranting and ridicule, but no satisfaction – Aramaic*

*Blood thirsty men detest the blameless, but the upright seek them out – Aramaic*

*A dullard vents all his rage, but a wise man calms it down – Aramaic*

**The consequence of leadership choices – 29:12**

**The consequence of caring for the poor – 29:13 – 14**

**The consequence of discipling children – 29:15 -17**

*Rod and reproof produce wisdom, but a lad out of control is a disgrace to his mother – Aramaic*

**The consequence of no direction from the Lord – 29:18**

*For a lack of vision a people lose restraint, but happy is he who heeds instruction – Aramaic*

God’s vision is His instruction from His word – without instruction there is no self – control

Amos 8:11 – ff – *days are coming declares the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, but rather for hearing the words of the Lord. People will stagger from sea to sea and from north even to east, they will go to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, but they will not find it.*

Rom. 10:13 -ff – *for whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? However, they did not all heed the good news for Isaiah says, Lord who has believed our report? So, faith come from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ*

**The consequence of employee treatment – 29:19 – 21**

*A slave pampered from youth will come to a bad end – Aramaic*

**The consequence of anger & pride – 29:22 -23**

*An angry man provokes a quarrel, a hot – tempered man commits many offenses*

*A man’s pride will humiliate him, but a humble man will obtain honor – Aramaic*

**The consequence of bad relationships – 29:24**

**The consequence of fearing other people – 29:25**

*The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts the Lord will be exalted*

**The bondage of fearing other people**

Fearing the loss of respect & reputation

Fearing the pressure to conform to the world’s standards

Fearing the abuse of others with power

John 19:7 – 8 – *the Jews answered him, we have law and by that law He ought to die*

*because He made Himself out to be the Son of God. Therefore when Pilate heard this*

*statement, he was even more afraid.*

Lk. 22:57 – *but he denied it, saying, Woman, I do not know Him…I do not know what you*

*are talking about.*

**The consequence of fearfully trusting God – 29:25 -26**

*Many seek the audience with a ruler, but it is from the Lord that a man gets justice – Aramaic*

**The conflict between the righteous & the wicked – 29:27**

*The unjust man is an abomination to the righteous, and he whose way is straight is an abomination to the wicked*

“Here is the oldest, most rooted, the most universal quarrel in the world. It was the first fruit of the fall. It has continued ever since and will last to the end of the world” Charles Bridges

Matt. 10:22 – *you will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved*

John 15:18 – *if the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you*

1 John 3:13 – *don’t be surprised, brethren if the world hates you.*

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**