

Proverbs: Concluding Points About The Lordship of God

Review (Notes from Lesson 10, May 23, 2010)

Debate your position: Should you always answer a fool (Yes/No)?

Five Concluding 5 Points:

Point #1: Behind the Proverbs is God

- The Statement:
 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge (1:7)
 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (9:10)
- Stupid to study the world without an orderly universe and world
- The Evidence:
 - Proverbs of things as they are in an orderly universe (15:17; 14:20)
 - Proverbs of cause and effect in an orderly universe (15:22; 27:18)
- Must realize that God is both the starting point and the pathway to wisdom

Point #2 Proverbs are general maxims and principles and are not absolute

- There are apparent contradictions in the Book of Proverbs (26:4-5 is a classic)
- Must understand the right circumstance to apply

Point #3 Knowing proverbs or wisdom is not enough, must know when to apply

- It takes a wise person to apply wisdom!
 - Proverbs 26:7; 26:7; 14:6; 17:16
- “More hands less work” is true but also “Too many cooks spoil the soup or booth” or “Haste makes waste” yet there are times when haste is imperative
- Example: Song of Solomon 8:8 – Wise brother looking ahead and preparing for heir sister developing into womanhood
- Classic example of misuse: Job’s comforters – It a true that sin will ultimately bring suffering, but suffering does not reveal a sinner
- Much of what the comforters said is true but misapplication, i.e., right wisdom but wrong context and application so they were unable to minister
- That is, faulty thinking, faulty theology; faulty mechanical application of scripture

Point #4 Leave room for God

- There is a certain unpredictability about life in the Book of Proverbs
 - Proverbs 25:2; 16:4; 20:24; 19:21; 21:30-31
- Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Job are showing us that life is not black and white!

Point #5 Object of your faith is the Lord not the Word

- Trust in the Lord but obey the Word
 - David: Trust in God but took five stones; Paul: Trust in God but appeal to Caesar; Matthew 10:16 walk in faith but with shrewdness
- 16:20 – Never said trust in the Word (i.e., study it, obey it, learn it, memorize it) but trust in the Lord which bring us back to the beginning “the fear of the Lord”
- Life without God is meaningless
- Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Testimony of Dr. Ben Solomon Carson