

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 127 – Hear Instruction Through Don't Turn From The Established Way (Proverbs 4)

1. What should one desire to hear and to know?

“Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding”
(Proverbs 4:1).

* We should hear the instruction of a father (Proverbs 1:8, Proverbs 13:1, Proverbs 15:5, and I Corinthians 4:15).

* We should attend to know understanding (Psalms 119:125).

2. What kind of teaching [doctrine] is given to us in Proverbs chapter four?

Solomon is giving “good doctrine”: *“For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law”* (Proverbs 4:2).

* Proverbs 8:6-9, Proverbs 22:20-21, and John 7:16-17 (cf. II Timothy 3:16-17).

3. What did Solomon learn from his father, David?

“(3) For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. (4) He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live” (Proverbs 4:3-4).

* Solomon was tender in the sight of his father (I Chronicles 29:1).

* He was beloved of his mother (I Kings 1:13-17).

* David taught Solomon to be obedient to God (I Chronicles 28:9).

4. How important is wisdom?

“(5) Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. (6) Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. (7) Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. (8) Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. (9) She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee” (Proverbs 4:5-9).

* Proverbs 3:13-18, Proverbs 19:8, Proverbs 23:23, Ecclesiastes 9:16-18, I Corinthians 2:13, and Colossians 3:16.

5. Can godly wisdom aid us in living quality lives?

Yes: *“(9) She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee. (10) Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many. (11) I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths. (12) When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest,*

thou shalt not stumble. (13) Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life” (Proverbs 4:9-13).

*** Proverbs 3:1, Proverbs 3:21-26, and Ecclesiasts 7:12.**

6. How much effort should we put into staying away from negative influences?

“(14) Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. (15) Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away” (Proverbs 4:14-15).

*** Psalms 1:1-2, Psalms 26:4-5, Psalms 119:115, Proverbs 9:6, Proverbs 12:11, Proverbs 13:20, Jeremiah 15:17, I Corinthians 15:33, I Corinthians 15:33, II Corinthians 6:14-17, Ephesians 5:11, I Timothy 6:3-5, II Thessalonians 3:6, I Timothy 5:22, and II John 9-11.**

7. How diligent are evildoers in carrying out their sinful desires?

“(16) For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall. (17) For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence” (Proverbs 4:16-17).

*** Psalms 36:1-4, Isaiah 57:20, Micah 2:1, and II Peter 2:14.**

8. What is the difference between the path of the just and the way of the wicked?

“(18) But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. (19) The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble” (Proverbs 4:18-19).

*** Shining lights: Matthew 5:14-16 and Philippians 2:15**

*** The way of the wicked: Psalms 146:9, Proverbs 12:26, and Proverbs 15:9.**

*** As darkness: Isaiah 59:1-10, Matthew 15:14, and I John 2:11.**

9. What is to be attended to and kept in the midst of one’s heart that will cause life and health?

“(20) My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. (21) Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. (22) For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh” (Proverbs 4:20-22).

*** Attend or give ear to the truth: Psalms 78:1, Isaiah 55:3, and John 8:47.**

*** Keep the word of God in our hearts: Deuteronomy 6:6 and Romans 10:8.**

*** Life and health comes to those who FIND these words for those without the truth certainly are not well: Amos 8:11**

10. What is to be kept with all diligence?

“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life” (Proverbs 4:23).

* Out of the heart comes the issues of life: **Matthew 12:35, Mark 7:21-23, and Luke 8:15.**

11. What type of mouth is to be put away?

*“Put away from thee a **froward [perverse]** mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee” (Proverbs 4:24).*

* **Proverbs 8:8, Proverbs 15:4, Colossians 3:8, and I Peter 3:10-11.**

12. Should we be a people who focus on what is before us?

Yes: *“Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee” (Proverbs 4:25).*

* Losing the proper focus is not right in the sight of God: **Psalms 119:37, Matthew 6:22, Matthew 6:33, Philippians 3:14-17, Colossians 3:1-4, and II Timothy 2:3-4.**

13. Whose path should we be pondering?

Our own: *“Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established” (Proverbs 4:26).*

* **Psalms 119:59, Haggai 1:5; 7, and II Corinthians 13:5.**

* Our steps must be ordered by the Lord (**Psalms 37:23**).

14. Should we ever get off of the right path?

No: *“Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil” (Proverbs 4:27).*

* The right path is straight and narrow (**Matthew 7:13-14**).

* The right and left side of THE WAY is wrong (**Deuteronomy 5:32, Deuteronomy 12:32, Deuteronomy 28:14, and Joshua 1:7-8**).

* There road to heaven is a ONE WAY ROAD (**John 14:6**).