

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

*Part 181 – Rejoicing The Heart Through Honor From Service (Proverbs 27:9-18)*

1. Like ointment and perfume, what does hearty counsel do for a man?

Hearty counsel from a friend can rejoice the heart: *“Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel” (Proverbs 27:9).*

- Ointment and perfume’s represent gladness (**Psalms 45:7-8**).
- Good counsel is great (**Proverbs 1:5, Proverbs 19:20, and Proverbs 24:6**).

2. Should you forsake your friends?

No: *“Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not” (Proverbs 27:10).*

- **Proverbs 18:24, Proverbs 27:5-6, and John 15:13.**

3. Is it better to depend on a neighbor than a brother who keeps himself at a distance?

Yes: *“...neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off” (Proverbs 27:10).*

- Sometimes a brother is not there for you (**Genesis 4:1-10, Genesis 27:18-36, Genesis 37:11-36, Jeremiah 9:4, and Mark 13:12**).
- A true friend is always there (**Proverbs 17:17 and Romans 16:1-4**).
- The definition of Jesus of true friends and brethren are those who obey God (**Matthew 12:46-50 and John 15:14**).

4. Can the wisdom of a child help the parent defend his or her character?

Yes: *“My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, that I may answer him that reproacheth me” (Proverbs 27:11).*

- We want wise children (**Proverbs 10:1, Proverbs 15:20, Proverbs 23:24-25, and Ephesians 6:4**).
- A child’s behavior reflects on his or her parent(s) (**I Samuel 2:22; 3:12-13, I Timothy 3:4-5, and Titus 1:6**).

5. What is a difference between a prudent man and a simple [naïve] person?

*“A prudent [caring for the future] man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished” (Proverbs 27:12).*

- **Proverbs 14:15; 18 and Proverbs 22:3; cf. Proverbs 14:18**
- Wisdom prepares us to be aware (**Matthew 10:16**).
- The prudent are aware people (**Proverbs 14:8**).
- The simple are easy targets (**Proverbs 7:7 and Proverbs 9:13-18**).
- Cure for simplicity (**Psalms 119:130**).

6. If someone is a surety for another, should they be expected to provide something of value for collateral?

Yes: *"Take his garment that is surety for a stranger, and take a pledge of him for a strange woman"* (**Proverbs 27:13**; cf. **Proverbs 20:16**).

- They could take it, but were expected to return it by sundown (**Exodus 22:26**).
- Overall, don't be a surety (**Proverbs 6:1-5**, **Proverbs 11:15**, **Proverbs 17:18**, and **Proverbs 22:26-27**).

7. Do you want to loudly proclaim praise for a friend early in the morning?

No: *"He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him"* (**Proverbs 27:14**).

- It's not the praise you might receive from another than is wrong (**Proverbs 27:2**), but the one who gives it early in the AM.

8. How fun is it to be around a contentious woman?

*"A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike"* (**Proverbs 27:15**).

- **Proverbs 19:13**, **Proverbs 21:9**, **Proverbs 21:19**, and **Proverbs 25:24**.

9. Can you really hide a contentious woman?

No more than you can hide the wind: *"(15) A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike. (16) Whosoever hideth her hideth the wind, and the ointment of his right hand, which bewrayeth itself"* (**Proverbs 27:15-16**).

- Winds are strong and they are powerful (**Psalms 48:7** and **John 6:18**).
- Something that "bewrayeth" is something that exposes (**Matthew 26:73**).

10. Can one man help another to be sharpened?

Yes: *"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend"* (**Proverbs 27:17**).

- **I Samuel 23:16**, **Job 4:3-4**, **Isaiah 35:3-4**, **II Corinthians 7:6**, and **II Timothy 1:16**.

11. If you diligently work what can you expect?

Fruit from your labor: *"Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured"* (**Proverbs 27:18**).

- **I Corinthians 9:7** and **Colossians 3:22-25**.
- As we've seen, you reap what you sow (**Job 4:8**, **Job 34:11**, **Proverbs 12:14**, **Proverbs 14:14**, **Proverbs 22:8**, **Proverbs 24:12**, **II Corinthians 5:10**, and **Galatians 6:7-8**).