

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 142 – A Wise Woman Builds Her House Through What Seems Right (Proverbs 14:1-12)

1. What is the difference between a wise woman and a foolish woman?

“Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands” (Proverbs 14:1).

* Wise woman that builds the house (**Ruth 4:9-12, Proverbs 24:3-4, Proverbs 31:10-31, II Timothy 1:5, and Titus 2:3-5**).

* Foolish woman (**I Kings 21:25, Proverbs 19:13, Proverbs 21:9, and Proverbs 21:19**).

2. What is the difference between one who walks in uprightness and one that is perverse in his ways?

“He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him” (Proverbs 14:2).

* Walking in the fear of the Lord to be upright (**Deuteronomy 8:6, Deuteronomy 13:4, Job 1:1, Psalms 112:1, Ecclesiastes 12:13, Malachi 2:1-6, Acts 9:31, and Acts 10:34-35**).

* Those who do not fear (**Jeremiah 44:10**), but rather despise God (**Malachi 1:6-10 and Luke 10:16**).

3. What are some lessons we can learn from Proverbs 14:3?

“In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them” (Proverbs 14:3).

* The foolish have a rod of pride in the mouths (**Proverbs 8:13**), which shall be cut off (**Psalms 12:3**).

- Pride leads to destruction (**Proverbs 16:18, Proverbs 11:2, Proverbs 18:12, Isaiah 2:11-12, James 4:6, and I John 2:16**).

* The lips of the wise lead to being preserved (**Proverbs 12:6 and Matthew 12:34-37**).

4. If one who needed oxen to accomplish work wanted to keep the crib [stall] clean by having no oxen, would they accomplish much work by having no oxen?

No: *“Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox” (Proverbs 14:4).*

* Don't get rid of a necessary tool just to keep something clean. Oxen were valuable to get work done in those days (cf. **Deuteronomy 22:10**).

5. Is every witness always telling the truth?

No: *"A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies"* (**Proverbs 14:5**).

* We should be faithful witnesses, in that we will NOT lie (**I Kings 22:12-14**, **Proverbs 13:5**, **Romans 9:1**, and **Colossians 3:9**).

* The only thing you can count on a false witness for is that they will lie (**Psalms 35:11**, **Proverbs 17:4**, and **I John 2:4**).

6. What type of person seeks wisdom, but cannot find it?

A scorner [mockers]: *"A scorner seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not: but knowledge is easy unto him that understandeth"* (**Proverbs 14:6**).

* Commentary on this: **Proverbs 1:22**, **Proverbs 13:1**, and **Jude 18**.

* Knowledge is easy to those who have understanding (**Proverbs 17:24**, **Proverbs 19:25**, **Proverbs 28:5**, and **Ephesians 5:17**).

7. Should we keep company with those who are foolish?

No: *"Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge"* (**Proverbs 14:7**).

* **Proverbs 9:6**, **Proverbs 13:20**, **Proverbs 19:27**, **Jeremiah 15:17**, **I Corinthians 15:33**, and **Ephesians 5:11**.

8. Does a prudent, thoughtful individual understand his or her way?

Yes: *"The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit"* (**Proverbs 14:8**).

* We should have an understanding of "the way" in which we live and walk (**Psalms 111:10** and **Proverbs 15:24**).

* The fool has deceived himself / herself into thinking all is well, when it is not (**Luke 12:16-21** and **James 1:22**).

9. Do fools take sin very seriously?

No: *"Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour"* (**Proverbs 14:9**).

* **Job 15:16**, **Proverbs 1:22**, **Proverbs 10:23**, **Proverbs 15:21**, **Proverbs 30:20**, and **Romans 1:28-32**.

10. Are there things we face internally that others cannot meddle in?

Yes: *"The heart knoweth his own bitterness; and a stranger doth not intermeddle with his joy"* (**Proverbs 14:10**).

* We have internal sorrows at times (**Job 10:1, Proverbs 15:13, Jeremiah 8:18, Ezekiel 3:14, John 12:27, and Romans 9:1-3**).

* We have internal joy at times (**Jeremiah 15:16 and II Corinthians 7:13**).

* There are times wherein we might really want to help one facing tough times (**Romans 12:15 and Galatians 6:2**), but they may have to bear it alone (**Luke 9:23, II Corinthians 12:10, and Galatians 6:5**).

11. What is the end of the house of the wicked?

"The house of the wicked shall be overthrown: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish" (**Proverbs 14:11**).

* **Proverbs 21:12**

12. Is it good to trust in that which seems right?

No: *"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"* (**Proverbs 14:12**).

* **Proverbs 16:25, Proverbs 3:5-7, Proverbs 21:2, Isaiah 5:21, Jeremiah 17:9, Hosea 13:2, II Samuel 7:1-7, and Mark 7:1-9**.