

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 145 – A Soft Answer Through God Knows The Hearts Of Men (Proverbs 15:1-11)

1. Can your words cause others to become angry?

Yes: *“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger” (Proverbs 15:1).*

* In bad situations, we have to contain ourselves (**Proverbs 14:17, Proverbs 15:18, Proverbs 16:32, Ecclesiastes 7:9, and James 1:19-20**).

* We are the peace seekers (**Psalms 34:14 and I Peter 3:10-11**) and peacemakers (**Romans 14:19, Hebrews 12:14, and James 3:18**).

* One should not “stir the pot” (**Proverbs 29:22**).

* It MUST be stated, this does not mean we “back up” or speak softly when it comes to teaching or standing for the truth (**Matthew 10:34-37, Luke 11:45-54, Acts 18:4-6, I Corinthians 2:1-5, II Corinthians 3:12, Philippians 1:17, and Jude 3-4**).

2. Is it possible to use knowledge incorrectly?

Yes, by implication if you can use knowledge aright then you can use it incorrectly: *“The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness” (Proverbs 15:2).*

* **Proverbs 16:23, Isaiah 50:4, and I Corinthians 10:23.**

* There is often a time to back away from speaking truth (**Matthew 7:6, Matthew 10:14, I Corinthians 3:1-3, and Hebrews 5:11**).

* Consider that we can wrongly divide the word of truth (**II Timothy 2:15**).

3. Does the Lord see everything?

Yes: *“The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” (Proverbs 15:3).*

* **II Chronicles 16:9, Proverbs 5:21, Jeremiah 16:17, Jeremiah 23:24, Hosea 7:2, and Hebrews 4:13.**

* He sees more than what’s on the outside too. We’ll discuss this when we get to verse 11.

4. What benefit is there to having a wholesome tongue rather than having perverseness come from your mouth?

“A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit” (Proverbs 15:4).

* “Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones” (**Proverbs 16:24**).

* When looking to define wholesome words, we find that the words of Christ are wholesome (**I Timothy 6:3**).

* On the other hand, perverse words can devour one (**Psalms 52:2-4**).

5. What type of person despises his father’s instruction?

“A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent” (**Proverbs 15:5**).

* **Proverbs 1:8, Proverbs 13:1, and Proverbs 19:20.**

6. What can be found in the house of the wise?

“In the house of the righteous is much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble” (**Proverbs 15:6**).

* Remember, we are not talking about physical wealth when we are talking about treasure that is good (**Proverbs 15:16, Proverbs 23:4-5, Matthew 6:19-21, Luke 6:45, Colossians 2:1-3, Hebrews 11:24-26, and Revelation 3:17-18**).

* The revenues [fruit] of the wicked are trouble (**Proverbs 10:16 and Matthew 7:17**).

7. What do the lips of the wise disperse?

The lips of the wise disperse [spread] knowledge: *“The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish doeth not so”* (**Proverbs 15:7**).

* **Psalms 37:30, Psalms 51:13, Psalms 71:15-17, Ecclesiastes 12:9-10, Malachi 2:7, and Colossians 1:10**).

8. Does the Lord accept acts of worship from the wicked?

No: *“The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight”* (**Proverbs 15:8**).

* **Proverbs 21:27, Proverbs 28:9, Isaiah 1:10-16, Isaiah 66:2-4, Jeremiah 6:19-20, Amos 5:21-24, Matthew 23:14, Mark 7:7-9, I Timothy 2:8, and I Peter 3:12.**

9. Is God indifferent in His thinking about the way of the wicked?

No: *“The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness”* (**Proverbs 15:9**).

* **Isaiah 55:7 and Nahum 1:3.**

10. Will those who hate correction be saved?

No: "*Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die*" (**Proverbs 15:10**).

* Those who choose to err do not like to be corrected (**I Kings 22:8, John 3:19-21, and John 7:7**).

* Those who reject correction hate their own souls (**Proverbs 15:31-32**).

11. Does the Lord know what is in the hearts of men?

Yes: "*Hell and destruction are before the LORD: how much more then the hearts of the children of men*" (**Proverbs 15:11**)?

* **I Samuel 16:7, I Chronicles 28:9, Psalms 44:21, Jeremiah 11:20, Jeremiah 17:10, John 2:24-25, Romans 8:27, and I John 3:20.**