

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 147 – Joy In Words Through The Honor In Humility (Proverbs 15:23-33)

1. Can we answer [reply] at the right time wherein what we say can bring joy to us and/or others?

Yes: *“A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it” (Proverbs 15:23)!*

- **Proverbs 16:13, Proverbs 24:26, Proverbs 25:11-12, Ephesians 4:29, and I Thessalonians 5:11.**

2. What way does the wise choose to follow?

The way of life: *“The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath” (Proverbs 15:24).*

- There are two paths in life (**Jeremiah 21:8** and **Matthew 7:13-14**).
- One way is right (**John 14:6** and **Acts 16:17**), the other way seems right but ends wrong (**Proverbs 14:12; 16:25**).

3. Is the proud person in better standing with the Lord than a widow?

The widow: *“The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow” (Proverbs 15:25).*

- It must first be stated that just because a woman is a widow, that does not mean that she is in good standing with the Lord (**I Timothy 5:11-15**).
- Having made that clear, no proud person is in good standing with the Lord (**Psalms 138:6** and **James 4:6**).

4. How does God view the thoughts of a wicked person?

They are an abomination to Him: *“The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD: but the words of the pure are pleasant words” (Proverbs 15:26).*

- Thoughts matter (**Genesis 6:5, Proverbs 24:9, Isaiah 59:7, Jeremiah 4:14, and Matthew 15:19**).
- On the other hand, the words of pure individuals are pleasant (**Psalms 37:30-31**).

5. Is it good to be greedy of gain?

No: *“He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live” (Proverbs 15:27).*

- Christians ought to be people of contentment (**Philippians 4:11-13, I Timothy 6:6-10, and Hebrews 13:5-6**).

6. Is it good to ponder things before we speak?

Yes: *"The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things"* (**Proverbs 15:28**).

- **Proverbs 10:19, Ecclesiastes 5:1-3, Ecclesiastes 10:13-14, and James 3:1.**

7. Does the Lord hear the prayers of the wicked?

No: *"The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous"* (**Proverbs 15:29**).

- **Psalms 34:16, Proverbs 15:8, Proverbs 28:9, Isaiah 1:11-16, Isaiah 59:1-3, Jeremiah 14:10-12, John 9:31, and I Peter 3:12.**

8. Can what we see and what we hear affect us positively?

Yes: *"The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart: and a good report maketh the bones fat"* (**Proverbs 15:30**).

- Seeing good is helpful or harmful (**Matthew 6:22-23**).
- Hearing good news is helpful (**Proverbs 25:25, Colossians 1:3-4, I Thessalonians 3:1-8, and III John 3-4**).

9. What kind of person hears reproof [correction]?

"The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise" (**Proverbs 15:31**).

- **Proverbs 9:8-9, Proverbs 15:5, Proverbs 17:10, Proverbs 19:20, and Proverbs 25:12.**

10. Does someone who cares for his or her own soul refuse instruction?

No: *"He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding"* (**Proverbs 15:32**).

- **Proverbs 1:24-32, Proverbs 29:1, John 12:48, II Thessalonians 1:7-9, and Hebrews 12:25.**

11. Must one be humble to eventually receive true honor?

Yes: *"The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility"* (**Proverbs 15:33**).

- **Proverbs 18:12, Proverbs 29:23, Luke 14:11, James 4:10, and I Peter 5:5-6.**