

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 149 – A King Is To Be Righteous Through Understanding Brings Life (Proverbs 16:12-22)

1. Should a king find delight in committing wickedness?

No: *"It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is established by righteousness"* (**Proverbs 16:12**).

- **Proverbs 20:28, Proverbs 25:5, and Proverbs 29:14.**

2. What kind of speech do righteous kings love?

"Righteous lips are the delight of kings; and they love him that speaketh right" (**Proverbs 16:13**).

- **Proverbs 14:35 and Proverbs 22:11.**

3. Does a wise man seek to cause the king to be angry with him?

No: *"The wrath of a king is as messengers of death: but a wise man will pacify it"* (**Proverbs 16:14**).

- **Proverbs 19:12, Proverbs 20:2, Ecclesiastes 8:4, and Daniel 5:18-19.**
- Christians are told to honor the king (**I Peter 2:17**).

4. If one found his or her self in the favor of the king, was that a good thing?

Yes, like the cloud of the latter rain [spring rain]: *"In the light of the king's countenance is life; and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain"* (**Proverbs 16:15**).

- The latter rain is the spring rain (cf. **Job 29:23-24** and **Zechariah 10:1**).

5. How valuable are wisdom and understanding?

More than gold and silver: *"How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver"* (**Proverbs 16:16**)!

- **Proverbs 4:7, Proverbs 8:10-11, and Ecclesiastes 7:12.**
- Earthly treasures cannot save anyone (**Psalms 49:6-10, Matthew 16:26, Luke 12:13-21, and Revelation 3:17-19**).
- Wisdom saves (**Proverbs 24:14** and **Isaiah 33:6**).
- We'll take more about understanding in question 11 (verse 22).

6. What is the highway of the upright?

Departing from evil: *"The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul"* (**Proverbs 16:17**).

- **Job 28:28, Psalms 34:13-15, Proverbs 4:24-27, II Corinthians 7:1, and II Timothy 2:19.**

7. Is it better to be humble or to be proud and haughty?

We'd better be humble: "(18) *Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.* (19) *Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud*" (**Proverbs 16:18-19**).

- Pride doesn't help anyone (**Proverbs 11:12, Proverbs 15:25, Proverbs 16:5, Proverbs 21:4, Proverbs 29:23, I Peter 5:5, and I John 2:16-17**).
- A haughty spirit is not good either (**II Samuel 22:28, Proverbs 18:12, and Isaiah 2:11-12**).
- The Lord has respect unto the lowly (**Psalms 138:6 and Isaiah 57:15**).
- The humble are exalted while the exalted will be abased (**Matthew 23:12 and Luke 18:9-14**).

8. How do you have to handle a matter to find good?

"*He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good...*" (**Proverbs 16:20**).

- **Proverbs 24:3-5**

9. In whom should you trust to find happiness?

"*...and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he*" (**Proverbs 16:20**).

- **Psalms 64:10 and Psalms 146:5**.

10. What kind of heart must one have to be called prudent [Strong's #995; "one of understanding; perceptive"]?

"*The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning*" (**Proverbs 16:21**).

- **Proverbs 10:8, Proverbs 16:23, Proverbs 18:15, and Ecclesiastes 8:5**.

11. Would you rather be one of understanding or one who hears the instruction of fools?

One of understanding, for such brings life: "*Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly*" (**Proverbs 16:22**).

- Understanding is required for salvation (**Matthew 13:19 and Ephesians 5:17**).
- Listening to a fool (cf. **Ecclesiastes 7:5**) causes you to fall (**Matthew 15:14**).