

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 163 – Wise Considers Wicked Through Following Righteousness (Proverbs 21:12-21)

1. What does the righteous man wisely consider?

The house of the wicked: *“The righteous man wisely considereth the house of the wicked: but God overthroweth the wicked for their wickedness”* (Proverbs 21:12).

- We can learn what not to do by considering the wicked (I Corinthians 10:1-12).
- God overthrows the wicked for their wickedness (Psalms 9:5, Psalms 11:4-7, Psalms 37:38, and Psalms 145:20).
- Even when the wicked prosper and look strong, they still cease to be: *“I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found”* (Psalms 37:35-36).

2. Can you expect to be aided if you close your ears to the cry of the poor?

No: *“Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard”* (Proverbs 21:13).

- We’re [each individual Christian] expected to help those who are TRULY poor (Proverbs 14:31 and Galatians 2:9-10; cf. I John 3:17-18).
- We CANNOT assist those who will not help themselves (II Thessalonians 3:10).
- We learn that we should treat others as we want to be treated (Matthew 7:12).

3. Can a secret gift [a present] pacify anger?

Yes: *“A gift in secret pacifieth anger: and a reward in the bosom strong wrath”* (Proverbs 21:14).

- Proverbs 18:16 and Proverbs 19:6.

4. Do just individuals enjoy doing judgment [justice]?

Yes: *“It is joy to the just to do judgment: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity”* (Proverbs 21:15).

- Psalms 94:15, Psalms 106:3, Psalms 119:13, Psalms 119:30, Proverbs 21:3, Proverbs 28:5, and Ecclesiastes 8:5.

5. Where is the man that wanders out of the way of understanding?

In the congregation [assembly] of the dead: *“The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead”* (Proverbs 21:16).

- Some who fall far enough never can get back (Proverbs 2:11-19, Proverbs 7:26-27, Hebrews 6:4-8, Hebrews 10:26-31, and II Peter 2:20-22).

6. What will the love of carnal things bring about in one's life?  
 Poverty (both spiritually and physically): *"He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich"* (**Proverbs 21:17**).
- **Proverbs 23:21, Luke 16:11-24, and I Timothy 5:6**; cf. **II Corinthians 5:14-15** and **Ephesians 2:1**.
7. Who became a ransom for the righteous?  
*"The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright"* (**Proverbs 21:18**).
- God shows us what this means: **Isaiah 43:3-4**; cf. **Proverbs 11:8**.
8. Is a contentious and angry woman fun to live with?  
 No: *"It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman"* (**Proverbs 21:19**).
- Discussed in **Proverbs 21:9**.
9. Do foolish individuals do a good job of financial planning?  
 No: *"There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up"* (**Proverbs 21:20**).
- The wise try to manage their wealth (**Proverbs 27:23** and **Luke 14:28-30**; cf. **Proverbs 27:12**).
  - All in all, we have to be wise with our finances but must also put our trust in God (**I Timothy 6:17**) and our treasures in Heaven (**Matthew 6:19-21**).
  - All will die and not take money with them (**Psalms 49:10**). Don't set your heart on money (**Psalms 62:10**).
10. What does a person find if he or she follows after righteousness and mercy?  
*"He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour"* (**Proverbs 21:21**).
- Follow after righteousness (**Proverbs 15:9, Isaiah 51:1, Matthew 5:6, and II Timothy 2:22**) and mercy (**Proverbs 3:3**).
  - Find life (**Matthew 7:13-14, Matthew 16:25, and John 14:6**).
  - Find righteousness (**Hosea 10:12 and Matthew 6:33**).
  - Find honor (**John 5:44 and Romans 2:7**).