

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 171 – Don't Envy Evil Men Through Rewarded Based On Deeds (Proverbs 24:1-12)

1. Should we ever envy or even want to be with evil individuals?

No: *"Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them"* (Proverbs 24:1).

- Psalms 37:1, Proverbs 3:31, Proverbs 23:17, and Proverbs 24:19.
- We should not envy ANYONE, if those who are good (Job 5:2, Proverbs 14:30, Proverbs 27:4, Romans 13:13, I Corinthians 3:3, James 3:16, and I Peter 2:1-2).
- We should not be with evil workers (Psalms 26:4-5, Psalms 119:115, Proverbs 13:20, Jeremiah 15:17, and I Corinthians 15:33).

2. Where are the hearts of evil men and what do their lips talk of?

"(1) Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them. (2) For their heart studieth destruction, and their lips talk of mischief" (Proverbs 24:1-2).

- Their hearts are evil (Genesis 6:5, II Chronicles 12:13-14, Psalms 14:1-2, and Proverbs 12:20).
- Their words are evil (Proverbs 15:28 and Proverbs 16:27).
- Evil lips and hearts are not always saying the same things (Psalms 28:3).

3. How do wisdom, understanding, and knowledge fit into building a household?

"(3) Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: (4) And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches" (Proverbs 24:3-4).

- Wisdom and the household (Proverbs 9:1, Proverbs 14:1, Proverbs 28:7, and Matthew 7:24-27).
- Understanding knits together a household (Colossians 2:2).
- Knowledge keeps a family from destruction (Hosea 4:6).

4. How can a man grow in strength, make war, and obtain safety?

Through wisdom, knowledge, and wise counsel: *"(5) A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength. (6) For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety"* (Proverbs 24:5-6).

- Wisdom and strength (Proverbs 8:14, Proverbs 10:29, Proverbs 21:22, Ecclesiastes 7:19, and Ecclesiastes 9:14-18).
- A man of knowledge gains strength (Isaiah 33:6).
- Wise counsel needs to be listened to (Proverbs 1:5, Proverbs 19:20, Proverbs 20:18, and Acts 15:1-35).

5. What is too high for a fool?

Wisdom: *"Wisdom is too high for a fool: he openeth not his mouth in the gate"*
(**Proverbs 24:7**).

- **Proverbs 14:6** and **Proverbs 17:24**.

6. What is God's definition of a mischievous person?

"He that deviseth to do evil shall be called a mischievous person" (**Proverbs 24:8**).

- **Psalms 21:11, Psalms 31:13, Psalms 38:12, Psalms 41:7, Proverbs 16:30, and Micah 2:1**.

7. Can you sin just by thinking about the wrong things?

Yes: *"The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men"*
(**Proverbs 24:9**).

- **Proverbs 23:7, Isaiah 55:6-7, Jeremiah 4:14, Matthew 5:27-28, Matthew 9:1-4, Matthew 15:17-20, and II Corinthians 10:5**.

8. How strong is someone who faints in the day of adversity?

Small in strength: *"If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small"* (**Proverbs 24:10**).

- **Galatians 6:9**

9. Can we do something wrong and think that God will not know about it?

He knows about it and will punish us accordingly: *"(11) If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; (12) If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works"* (**Proverbs 24:11-12**)?

- You should not stand by while the innocent suffer (**Psalms 82:4** and **Luke 10:25-37**).
- The Lord knows our hearts (**I Samuel 16:7, Psalms 7:9, Psalms 44:21, Proverbs 21:2, Jeremiah 17:10, Romans 2:16, and Revelation 2:23**).
- The Lord knows everything we do (**Psalms 11:4, Psalms 139:1-12, Proverbs 5:21, Proverbs 15:3, and Hebrews 4:13**).
- The Lord is greater than our hearts and knoweth ALL THINGS (**I John 3:20**).
- The Lord renders to every man according to his works (**Job 34:11, Proverbs 12:14, Jeremiah 32:19, Hosea 8:7, John 5:28-29, and II Corinthians 5:10**).