

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 173 – Praising The Wicked Through The Slothful Coming To Poverty (Proverbs 24:24-34)

1. Will you win the favor of others by calling the wicked righteous?

No: *“He that saith unto the wicked, Thou art righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him”* (**Proverbs 24:24**).

- Most importantly, you’ll be an abomination to God (**Proverbs 17:15** and **Malachi 2:17**).
- Don’t call evil good (**Isaiah 5:20**).

2. Do good blessings come to those who rebuke the wicked?

Yes: *“But to them that rebuke him shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them”* (**Proverbs 24:25**).

- We should rebuke the erring (**Proverbs 27:5**, **I Timothy 5:20**, **Titus 1:10-13**, and **Titus 2:15**).
- Our goal in rebuking the erring should be to either save his or her soul (**Psalms 51:13** and **James 5:19-20**) or to expose error (**Romans 16:17-18** and **Ephesians 5:11**).

3. Do people appreciate those who give the right answers?

Yes: *“Every man shall kiss his lips that giveth a right answer”* (**Proverbs 24:26**).

- This does not mean ALL people want the right answers (**Proverbs 9:8**, **Proverbs 23:9**, **John 3:19-21**, and **Galatians 4:16**).
- Good and right answers however, are good (**Proverbs 15:23** and **Proverbs 25:11-12**).

4. Should you build a house prior to providing the means for your living?

No: *“Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house”* (**Proverbs 24:27**).

- This is teaching us about laying the proper foundations in our lives before we start constructing things we cannot support (**Matthew 7:24-27**).
- In addition, it is unwise to have a house without being able to feed yourself (**I Timothy 6:8**).

5. Should we ever be a false witness against a neighbor (or anyone for that matter)?

No: *“Be not a witness against thy neighbour without cause; and deceive not with thy lips”* (**Proverbs 24:28**).

- **Exodus 20:16**, **Exodus 23:1**, **Proverbs 14:5**, **Proverbs 19:5**, **Proverbs 19:9**, **Proverbs 21:28**, and **Romans 13:9**.
- We should never deceive with our lips in any situation (**Acts 5:1-10**, **Ephesians 4:25**, **Colossians 3:9**, and **Revelation 21:8**).

6. Should we do unto others as they have done unto us?

No: *"Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work"* (**Proverbs 24:29**).

- **Proverbs 20:22, Proverbs 25:21-22, Romans 12:17-21, and I Thessalonians 5:15.**

7. What do you find when you look at the work of the slothful?

Neglect: *"(30) I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; (31) And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down"* (**Proverbs 24:30-31**).

- **Proverbs 12:27, Proverbs 20:4, and Ecclesiastes 10:18.**

8. Should we be able to learn from the mistakes of others (i.e. the mistakes of lazy people)?

Yes: *"Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction"* (**Proverbs 24:32**).

- **Deuteronomy 13:6-11, I Corinthians 10:1-12, Hebrews 3:6-4:11, and Jude 5-7.**

9. If you love to sleep and be lazy, will you succeed in life?

No: *"(33) Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: (34) So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man"* (**Proverbs 24:33-34**).

- **Proverbs 10:4, Proverbs 13:4, Proverbs 19:15, Proverbs 21:25, and Proverbs 23:21.**