

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 179 – The Dishonest Tongue (Proverbs 26:22-28)

1. Do the words of talebearers cause harm?

“The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly” (Proverbs 26:22).

- Talebearers are those who reveal secrets (**Proverbs 11:13**).
- **Leviticus 19:16, Proverbs 16:28, Proverbs 18:8, and Proverbs 20:19.**
- Think of busybodies here too (**II Thessalonians 3:11**).

2. What are burning lips and a wicked heart compared to?

“Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd [pottery] covered with silver dross [rubbish; refuse; waste; Psalms 119:119 & Proverbs 25:4]” (Proverbs 26:23).

- These are lips and hearts that are trashy, but they’re covered with something that looks good to conceal what is really beneath (**Isaiah 29:13, Ezekiel 33:30-33, Mark 7:1-14, Matthew 23:25-28, and Titus 1:16**).
- Think of people who say, but do not (**Matthew 23:3**).

3. What type of individual dissembles with his or her lips?

“He that hateth dissembleth [shows respect, acknowledges deceitfully] with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him” (Proverbs 26:24).

- **I Samuel 18:17-22, Psalms 5:8-9, Psalms 12:1-2, Proverbs 10:18, and Luke 20:20-21.**

4. Are there individuals who say one thing but have something else in his or her heart?

Yes: *“When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart” (Proverbs 26:25).*

- **Psalms 28:3, Jeremiah 9:1-8, Romans 16:17-18, and II Peter 2:1-3.**
- These fools cannot hide what’s in their heart from He who matters most (**I Samuel 16:7, Jeremiah 17:9-10, Luke 16:15, and Acts 1:24**).

5. Should one who hides his or her hatred by deception be exposed for what they really are?

Yes: *“Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation” (Proverbs 26:26).*

- **II Samuel 13:22-28, Psalms 55:21, Proverbs 5:3-4, and Matthew 26:21-25.**

6. What verse in our study teaches the “you reap what you sow” principle?

“Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him” (Proverbs 26:27).

- **Esther 6:4; 7:1-10, Psalms 7:14-16, Psalms 9:15, Psalms 57:6, Proverbs 28:10, and Ecclesiastes 10:8.**
- Even if one could avoid his or her own ditch, in the end they’ll “get theirs” (**John 5:28-29, II Corinthians 5:10, and Galatians 6:7-8**).
- Here is another thought, what if you’re following the ditch diggers (**Matthew 15:14**)?

7. Can a lying tongue that flatters cause a lot of harm?

“A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin” (Proverbs 26:28).

- **Proverb 7:4-23, Proverbs 29:5, and Romans 3:8.**