

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 184 – Punishment For Stumblingblocks Through Diligent Work (Proverbs 28:10-19)

1. Will a person who is a stumblingblock for the righteous suffer consequences?

Yes: *“Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit: but the upright shall have good things in possession”* (Proverbs 28:10).

- There are those who intentionally try to turn people away from God (**Psalms 119:110, Proverbs 1:10-19, Acts 13:8-10, and Galatians 3:1-4**).
- They aren't always obvious enemies (**Matthew 7:15-20 and II Corinthians 11:13-15**).
- Sinfully causing someone to stumble is wrong (**Romans 14:13**) and the punishment is certain (**Psalms 7:15-16, Jeremiah 23:13-34, Matthew 15:14, and Matthew 18:7**).

2. Who searches out the rich man that is self-deceived?

The poor whom has understanding: *“The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out”* (**Proverbs 28:11**).

- **Proverbs 18:17**.
- Not only rich people, but all sinners see themselves through self-deception (**Proverbs 3:7, Proverbs 26:16, Isaiah 5:21, and James 1:26**).

3. Is the uprising of the wicked a good thing?

No: *“When righteous men do rejoice, there is great glory: but when the wicked rise, a man is hidden”* (**Proverbs 28:12**).

- **I Kings 18:13, Proverbs 11:10, Proverbs 28:28, and Proverbs 29:2**.

4. Should you try to hide your sins?

No: *“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy”* (**Proverbs 28:13**).

- **Psalms 32:5, Psalms 38:18, Jeremiah 3:12-13, Jeremiah 8:4-6, Matthew 23:25-28, and I John 1:8-10**.

5. Is godly fear a good thing?

Yes: *“Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief”* (**Proverbs 28:14**).

- Fearing God and happiness are not separate (**Psalms 2:11**).
- We're supposed to fear our Lord (**Psalms 96:4, Psalms 111:10, Proverbs 16:6, Philippians 2:12, and Hebrews 12:28-29**).
- We have to steer clear of hardened hearts (**Hebrews 3:6-19**).

6. Is a wicked ruler a good thing for poor people?

No, they are likened to predators (cf. **Ezekiel 22:27**): *“As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people”* (**Proverbs 28:15**).

- **Ecclesiastes 5:8**.
- On the other hand... **Proverbs 29:14**.

7. Does a prince who lacks understanding do good for his people?

No: *“The prince that wanteth understanding is also a great oppressor: but he that hateth covetousness shall prolong his days”* (**Proverbs 28:16**).

- The Lord approves of wise rulers (**Deuteronomy 1:13**), men of truth (**Exodus 18:21**).
- Certainly, rulers who hate covetousness are valued too (**Isaiah 33:15-16**).
- Anyone that lacks understanding is spiritually dangerous (**Jeremiah 5:21** and **II Peter 2:12**).

8. Should you stay [uphold] a person that murders another?

No: *“A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him”* (**Proverbs 28:17**).

- **Genesis 9:6, Exodus 21:12, Leviticus 24:17, Numbers 35:31, Deuteronomy 19:11-12, Romans 13:3-5, and Revelation 21:8**.

9. In what manner must I walk if I want to be saved?

Uprightly: *“Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved: but he that is perverse in his ways shall fall at once”* (**Proverbs 28:18**).

- **Proverbs 11:3** and **Proverbs 13:6**.
- Walk uprightly (**Psalms 26:1, Psalms 37:31, Proverbs 10:9, II Peter 1:10, and I John 2:3-6**).
- Perverse fall (**Proverbs 10:25**).

10. Who should you follow if you want to be in poverty?

Vain persons: *“He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough”* (**Proverbs 28:19**).

- Work for your food (**Proverbs 12:11, Proverbs 27:23-27, Ephesians 4:28, I Thessalonians 4:11, and II Thessalonians 3:10**).
- Follow the other side and have nothing (**Proverbs 13:4** and **Proverbs 24:30-34**).