

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 190 – Deferred Hope Through Wise Companionship (Proverbs 30:12-20)

1. Are there times when people are self-righteous?

Yes: *“There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness” (Proverbs 30:12).*

- **Judges 17:6, Judges 21:25, Job 33:8-9, Proverbs 21:2, and Luke 16:15.**
- Self-righteousness prevents people from really changing (**Luke 18:10-14**).

2. Are there times when people are full of pride?

Yes: *“There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up” (Proverbs 30:13).*

- Pride prevents obedience to God (**Psalms 10:4**).
- Sadly, humility will come to those generations (**Proverbs 15:25, Isaiah 2:11, Daniel 4:37, Matthew 23:12, and Luke 14:11**).

3. Are there times when the mouths of people are likened unto weapons?

Yes: *“There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men” (Proverbs 30:14).*

- **Psalms 52:1-2, Psalms 55:21, Psalms 57:4, Psalms 59:7, Psalms 64:1-3, and Proverbs 12:18.**

4. What things are never satisfied?

They're never satisfied: *“(15) The horseleach hath two daughters, crying, Give, give. There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, four things say not, It is enough: (16) The grave; and the barren womb; the earth that is not filled with water; and the fire that saith not, It is enough” (Proverbs 30:15-16).*

- The grave [hades] always wants more (**Proverbs 27:20**).
- The barren really want children (**Genesis 25:21**).
- If it rains today, the earth will need more rain soon (**Deuteronomy 11:14**).
- Fire wants to keep burning (**Exodus 22:6**).
- We don't want to be like leeches or these other things wherein we are never content (**Matthew 6:25, Luke 3:14, Philippians 4:11-12, I Timothy 6:6-10 and Hebrews 13:5-6**).

5. What kind of punishment is one worthy of when he mocks his father or despises his mother?
“The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it” (Proverbs 30:17).

- **Leviticus 20:9, Deuteronomy 21:18-21, and Proverbs 20:20.**
- To be clear though, when one’s parents disobey God the child must choose the Lord and obedience to Him over all others (**Matthew 10:37, Matthew 12:46-50, and I Timothy 6:3-5**).

6. What four things are unknown to Solomon?

“(18) There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not: (19) The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid” (Proverbs 30:18-19).

- There is no obvious path or signs of presence in these four things. You cannot see where they’ve been or are going.
- Realistically, we don’t even know our own way (**Proverbs 20:24 and Jeremiah 10:23**).
- Rather than concerning ourselves with figuring out some things, we ought to be more concerned with where God wants us to be going (**Psalms 37:23**). This is why Solomon said these four things were too “wonderful” for him.
- We have to realize that it is not for us to know everything (**Deuteronomy 29:29**).

7. Does an adulterous woman have a good conscience?

Like the four things above, Solomon doesn’t understand the way of, the way of an adulterous woman is mysterious. She hath no conscience: *“Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness” (Proverbs 30:20).*

- An adulterous woman is a predator (**Proverbs 7:5-27**).
- Sinners often get to a point wherein their conscience is so defiled they cannot see they’re doing wrong (**Ephesians 4:17-19 and I Timothy 4:1-2**).