

## Reprove Not A Scorer

### I. Introduction:

A. We all know that we MUST listen to and obey the Lord's will for us revealed through His word (**John 12:48** and **James 2:10**).

1. While we will discuss principles about obeying God's word, the intent of this lesson is more along the realm of heeding wisdom that concurs with God's word, but in areas of liberty (i.e. **I Corinthians 7:6-9; 25-35**).

2. By areas of liberty, I am meaning that these counsels are about using wisdom, not necessarily a violation of God's word, but could certainly lead to a violation of God's word (i.e. **I Corinthians 8:1-13**).

B. It is wise to be receptive to good counsel [advisement] (**Proverbs 11:14; 15:22; 24:6**, and **Acts 15:1-6**).

1. We have to be cautious to whom/where we look for counsel (**Isaiah 30:1**, **Proverbs 14:15**, and **I Corinthians 2:1-6**).

a. Before you trust "Google", financial advisors, your psychological professionals, etc., think about what God says concerning the world and the wisdom thereof (**I John 5:19** and **I Corinthians 3:18-19**).

b. Outside of the all-equipping Scriptures (**II Timothy 3:15-17** and **II Peter 1:3-4**), God gives us each other as a source (**Titus 2:1-8**).

2. If we are "well advised" we will have wisdom (**Proverbs 13:10**).

### II. Body: **Proverbs 9:1-12**

A. By scorner we are talking about a person: "to make mouths at, i.e. to scoff; hence (from the effort to pronounce a foreign language) to interpret, or (generally) intercede: — ambassador, have in derision, interpreter, make a mock, mocker, scorn(-er, -ful), teacher. To scorn, make mouths at, talk arrogantly to scorn, to mock, deride..." (Strong's # 3887).

1. Scriptures that help clarify what we are talking about: **Psalms 1:1**, **Proverbs 14:6**, **Proverbs 14:9**, **Proverbs 21:24**, and **Proverbs 22:10**.

2. Examples: **Job 34:7**, **Proverbs 1:20-33**, and **II Peter 3:1-10**

B. In the context of this lesson, we are considering how people arrogantly have it all figured out (**Proverbs 12:15**) and they speak against, scoff, turn away sound counsel (**II Chronicles 10:1-14**).

1. Let's say a more mature, strong, knowledge, dependable, fruit bearing saint advices you how to get stronger in the faith; why would you turn it away like you know better than they when they are just doing what they should be doing by trying to help you (**Romans 15:1-3**)?

2. What if a faithful saint advices you that your choices will make it HARDER for you to be saved, how could you ignore that seeing it is already hard to be saved (**I Peter 4:18**)?

3. Be a ready listener (**Proverbs 19:20**) instead of a stubborn mule (**Psalms 32:8-9**).

C. Understand this... The faithful, wise among us, will **NOT** continue to advise if you are unwilling to hear (**Proverbs 23:9**).

1. Ceasing to talk to those who won't listen is the Scriptural pattern for nothing changes with more talk (**Psalms 81:10-12**). *\*Even with spiritual matters (**Matthew 7:6** and **Titus 3:9-11**).*

2. Furthermore, we who know better know that more of the same talk just will turn into a hardened heart (**Proverbs 29:1**).

III. Conclusion: Are you the wise that get wiser (**Proverbs 1:5**) or the stupid that stay stupid (**Proverbs 12:1**)?

1. So, how receptive are you to the right information (**Proverbs 10:17**)?

2. Are you "ready to hear" (**Ecclesiastes 5:1** and **James 1:19**)?

3. How about ready to apply (**Philippians 4:9**)?