

- I have read:
1. The Assigned Psalms
2. The assigned Proverbs.
3. Ecclesiastes
4. Dott

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Religion 302

The Proverb that I have chosen to examine is Chapter 6. Perhaps this particular proverb hit me, because it has not been long since we, as parents, were wrestling with those "teen years" with our children. As I read all the proverbs, I kept thinking, Oh I wish the children were here, reading these with me--or, "How true" or, "Oh, yes!"

Verses 1-4. a plea for "his son" to be careful who he is "surety" for. For when we associate closely with someone they become surety for us, and we for them. "Birds of a feather, flock together." "Make sure thy friend." is, indeed good advice.

Verses 4-12: Advice against idleness. For who is more industrious than the ant? 7-"who having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest." Can have double meaning. 1. Use a little initiative-- don't always have to be told, directed, cajoled. 2) But if the ant can do this without guidance, how much better should we do with guidance from loved ones and especially from the Lord.

Verses 12-15: Gives warnings and results of frowardness, which the dictionary defines as "disobedience, intractableness." Sometimes a young person thinks that he can cultivate "naughtiness" as a way of life, without penalty. Not so. They can become a danger to themselves and others for they "deviseth mischief continually" and "soweth discord--(and the penalty) therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy." And sometimes it seems without remedy, although sometimes, with true repentance it does not prove to be so in the long run.

Verses 17-19: Six things which the Lord hateth. I have used this proverb in my SS class when teaching teen agers, who are often very unkind to each other. If these six things are those the Lord hateth most, we ALL have to watch ourselves--especially our tongues--and our desire for the things of the world (pride). and there is that "Heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, and feet that be swift running to mischief." (doubly emphasized in this proverb.)

Verses 20-23. Beautiful plea for righteousness and a beautiful result for obedience.

Verses 24-33: The evil of adultery. When we steal "things" we can make retribution, but for the theft of virtue there is no retribution to those wronged innocently--and those wronged directly.