**Living Wisely – Pr. 21**

**Focal Truth: Victory in life is from the Lord**

*The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory belongs to the Lord 21:31*

 *The horse is readied for the day of battle, but victory comes from the Lord Aramaic*

**Life Truths – living in the world**

1. Pride, plans, lies – 21:4 -6
2. Violence, guilt, family problems – 21:7 -9
3. Evil desires, correction, discernment, hard – heartedness – 21:10 -13
4. Bribes, justice, rebellion, pleasure lovers – 21:14 -17
5. Wickedness, righteousness, family problems – 21:18 -20
6. Pride, laziness, wickedness – 21:24 -29

**Life Conduct – living in the fear of God**

1. Pursue righteousness – 21:21

*He who pursues righteousness and loyalty finds life, righteousness and honor*

*He who strives to do good and kind deeds attains life, success, and honor – Aramaic*

Paul reminds the believer pursue holiness – Heb. 12:14

Peter teaches us to desire life & see good days - 1 Pet. 3: 10 – 11

*The one who desires life, to love and see good days, must keep his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. He must turn away from evil and do good, he must seek peace and pursue it.*

God says – pursue righteousness & you will find **life, righteousness, and honor!**

1. Overcome wickedness with God’s wisdom – 21:22

*A wise man scales the city of the mighty and brings down the stronghold in which they trust*

*One wise man prevailed over a city of warriors and brought down its mighty stronghold Aramaic*

Joshua is the example of overcoming the enemy with God’s wisdom

 Josh. 8: 3 -22 – *all the people who were in the city were called together to pursue Joshua*

 *and were drawn away from the city unguarded and pursued Israel. So not a man was left*

 *in Ai or Bethel who had not gone after Israel and they left the city unguarded and*

 *pursued Israel*

1. Guard what you say – you will protect yourself from sin – 21:23

He who guards his mouth and his tongue, guards, his soul from troubles

He who guards his mouth and tongue guards himself from trouble Aramaic

Guarding our words guards our soul

Watch your mouth – watch your soul

Whoever cares about their soul watches their words

Eccl. 5:2 – *do not be hasty in word or impulsive in thought to bring up s matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth. Therefore let your words be few*

Pr. 14:3 – *the lips of the wise protect them*

Pr. 22:5 – *thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse, He who guards himself will be far from them*

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. The Lord directs the hearts of government leaders – 21:1

*The king’s heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord*

*Like channeled water is the mind of the king n the Lord’s hand; He direst it to whatever He wishes Aramaic*

1. The Lord knows the heart and mind of everyone – 21:2

*Every man’s way is right in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the hearts*

*All the ways of a man seem right to him, but the Lord probes the mind Aramaic*

1. The Lord desires living in righteousness – 21:3

*To do righteousness and justice is desired by the Lord more than sacrifice*

*To do what is right and just is more desired by the Lord than sacrifice Aramaic*

1. There is no wisdom, understanding or counsel that can defeat the Lord – 21:30

*There is no wisdom and no understanding and no counsel against the Lord*

*No wisdom, no prudence and no counsel can prevail against the Lord*

Ps. 33: 10-11 – *the Lord nullifies the counsel of the nations, He frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart from generation to generation*

All man’s wisdom while it strives supremacy is overmatched by God – Trapp

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**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**