**Living Wisely – Pr. 12**

**Focal Truth: God’s wisdom teaches that righteousness is has deep roots**

**Observations**

1. **The root of righteousness will not be moved – 12:3**

*But the root of the righteous will not be moved*

*But the root of the righteous will not be shaken – Aramaic paraphrase*

*But the roots of the righteous shall not be taken up – Greek translation*

1. What is the root of righteousness?

Root = firmness or permanence

The root of righteousness is the firmness of the righteous in relationship to God

through Jesus Christ - *will not be moved*

 Rom. 4:5 – *but to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the*

 *ungodly,* ***his faith is credited as righteousness***

The root of righteousness is the firmness of the righteous living for God’s glory in all circumstances of life – *will not be moved*

Col. 2:5 – *I rejoice to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ*

Ps. 16:8 – *I have set the Lord continually before me, because He is at my right hand , I will not be shaken*

Pr. 10:30 – *the righteous will never be shaken*

Ps. 46:2 - 3 - *therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, and the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains quake at its swelling pride*

1. **The root of righteousness yields fruit – 12:12**

*But the root of the righteous yields fruit*

*But the roots of the godly are firmly set – Greek Translation*

1. The righteous like a tree have deep roots that yield fruit all their life
2. The righteous like a tree have deep roots that remain fruitful even in harsh times

Ps. 1:3 – *blessed is the one…whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law, day and night. That person is like a tree planted by the streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither – whatever they do prospers*

1. The righteous through prayer & meditation on the Scriptures develop deep roots that produces fruitfulness
2. The righteous through the Holy Spirit convicting & teaching work produces fruitfulness in the righteous

Lk. 13:8 – *leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it*

“Because He is the great Husbandman, the beginning of God’s cultivation of the hungry – hearted believer is downward. Patiently, persistently and painfully our Father digs down into the recesses of self, more and more fully revealing to us just what we are and are not, in ourselves. He reason for this preparation is twofold: that the Lord Jesus might be free to manifest Himself in us; and through us for the sake of others- growing and sharing…We must be cultivated before we cultivate others.”

The Green Letters – Miles Stanford

1. The righteous through abiding in Christ bear lasting fruit

John 15:1 -2 – *I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while ever branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be more fruitful*

John 15:4 - *abide in Me, and I in you, the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.*

John 15:8 – *My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples*

Heb. 12:11 – *all discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful, yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness*

1. The righteous fruitfulness is revealed:
* **The presence of the fruit of the Spirit – is Christlikeness**

When you look at the branch, you see at once the likeness to the Vine”

Andrew Murray

* **The actions of good works in the name of Jesus**
* **The making of new disciples in accomplishing the great commission**
1. **The righteous are rooted in Christ’s love – 3:16 -17**

*That He would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power through the Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, and that you, being rooted and grounded in love…*

1. **The righteous are rooted with understanding of the love of Christ – Eph. 3:18 -19**

*And to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.*