

Proverbs Lesson Six Outline

Understanding a fool

Lesson Aim: To examine the inner attitudes of a fool according to the Proverbs.

Lesson Goals:

To recognize behavior reveals one's inner self.

To discover a fool's inner self from Proverb's observations.

To apply what we discover to Bible characters.

- I. Seeking the wisdom of Jesus
 - A. What Jesus says about the inner self...

Matthew 15:10-11 After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, "Hear and understand. "It is not what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man."
 - B. Disciples ask for more...

Matthew 15:16-20 Jesus said, "Are you still lacking in understanding also? Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated? But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man."
 - C. Goal one - behavior reveals the inner self. True for all?
Jesus? Saint? Sinner? Pagan?
- II. Now the wisdom of Proverbs
 - A. Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.
 - B. Proverbs 11:12 He who despises his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding keeps silent.
 - C. Proverbs 12:8 A man will be praised according to his insight, but one of perverse mind will be despised.
 - D. Proverbs 14:6 A scoffer seeks wisdom and finds none, but knowledge is easy to one who has understanding.

- E. Proverbs 14:8 The wisdom of the sensible is to understand his way, but the foolishness of fools is deceit.
 - F. Proverbs 29:11 A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back.
 - G. Observation: Treasures of earth; gold, silver, gems are contrasted with wisdom and Proverbs teaches us which has more value.
- III. Applications:
- A. Proverbs 23:9 Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise the wisdom of your words.
 - B. The case of Apollos Acts 18:24-28 read the case. Also see Paul's observation in 1 Corinthians 4:6.
There are many other Bible characters...