



June 5, 2020 edition of TruNorth Daily Devotional with Dr Jim Brown

“Practical Wisdom from the Proverbs”

Proverb 1:28-33

“When they cry for help, I will not answer. Though they anxiously search for me, they will not find me. For they hated knowledge and chose not to fear the LORD. They rejected my advice and paid no attention when I corrected them. Therefore, they must eat the bitter fruit of living their own way, choking on their own schemes. For simpletons turn away from me—to death. Fools are destroyed by their own complacency. But all who listen to me will live in peace, untroubled by fear of harm.”

When God created mankind in Genesis, He provided us with the power to CHOOSE. The original occupants of Eden, choose to SIN against God which opened the door to death, corruption, sickness, disease, and the entire host of evil thoughts, behaviors and choices.

Here in Proverbs, Solomon continues his word-picture with Wisdom not answering the calls to her for help after those calling out to her were guilty of turning their backs on her wise sayings.

Solomon says: **“For they hated knowledge and chose not to fear the LORD.”**

So, while there was still time (before the calamity), these people decided to ignore Wisdom, turn their backs on her truthful words and by doing so, reject God as Lord.

“They did not choose to fear the Lord.”

As stated, WE have the power to choose. But most don't choose to FEAR the Lord and thus, don't value the Lord's thoughts or advice.

Have you considered what it means to CHOOSE to worship, respect, honor, and follow the Lord?

Psalm 111:10 says: ***"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding."***

In Proverbs 9:10 – ***"the Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."***

And Ecclesiastes 12:13 – ***"Fear the Lord and keep His commandments."***

Of those who don't, Solomon says... ***"Therefore, they must eat the bitter fruit of living their own way"***

Solomon reminds us that the consequences of rejecting wisdom cannot be avoided. The end result of this love of foolishness and scorn is death and destruction.

Finally, something positive:

"But whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."

"Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, for Thou art with me." (Psalm 23:4)

Death loses its terror when you are right with God.

Prayer: Lord, I desire to be right with you – all day, every day. Help me to always look to you and never to scorn your opinions or ideas. I acknowledge that you know everything and I know nothing by comparison. Help me Lord to keep you first. Amen.