



Proverbs Daily Dose of Wisdom Devotional



Chapter 19 By Nelda Golden

July 19, 2015

A theme for this chapter could be “Better to be poor and honest than rich and dishonest”, which comes from verse 1 (The Living Bible). One word that surfaces in this chapter and carries on into chapter 20 is the word “integrity”. Every dictionary definition I looked at included the words “honest and strong moral principles.” It is clear what God’s message is to us. In this chapter He provides a list of promises/rewards and punishments/curses for those who are honest or dishonest, lazy or hardworking, wise or foolish, reverent or disrespectful, and selfish or generous.

To begin, honesty brings friendships while dishonesty brings loneliness. Wisdom brings understanding and success while foolishness blocks understanding and success. Wisdom also restrains anger while a fool must pay the price of his temper. A lazy or selfish man will eventually go hungry while God promises that a generous man will be rewarded. God also promises life, happiness, and protection for the person who shows reverence. The last couple statements discuss punishments only, but we can read into them what the rewards are. God says that a son who mistreats his parents is a public disgrace. He emphasizes twice, in verses 5 and 9, that the false witness will be punished. Those are pretty serious statements.

The bottom line is that we have a choice. God does not make us do anything. We can be honest or dishonest, wise or foolish, selfish or generous, reverent or disrespectful, and lie or not lie. God wants to bless us, but the choice is ours.

Read and study chapter 19 today.

What verse stood out to me _____

What is God’s wisdom to me _____

What can I do today to go forward with God’s wisdom in my life _____

Nelda Golden is a wife, mother of 6, and grandmother of 14. Retired school teacher and is currently the English as a Second Language program coordinator at the local public school and teaches classes for the community college. She was raised by Christian parents in Southern Arizona and accepted the Lord at age 5 ½. Nelda attends The Living Church in Lakeside, Arizona and is the keyboardist on the praise & worship team.