



Ancient Words of Wisdom: Volume 2

Ancient Words of Wisdom (33-63): Proverbs 11:1-31

“Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord, But a just weight is His delight. When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom. The integrity of the upright will guide them, But the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them. Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, But righteousness delivers from death. The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way aright, But the wicked will fall by his own wickedness. The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, But the unfaithful will be caught by their lust. When a wicked man dies, his expectation will perish, And the hope of the unjust perishes. The righteous is delivered from trouble, And it comes to the wicked instead. The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor, But through knowledge the righteous will be delivered. When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; And when the wicked perish, there is jubilation. By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, But it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked. He who is devoid of wisdom despises his

neighbor, But a man of understanding holds his peace. A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter. Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety. He who is surety for a stranger will suffer, But one who hates being surety is secure. A gracious woman retains honor, But ruthless men retain riches. The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh. The wicked man does deceptive work, But he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward. As righteousness leads to life, So he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death. Those who are of a perverse heart are an abomination to the Lord, But the blameless in their ways are His delight. Though they join forces, the wicked will not go unpunished; But the posterity of the righteous will be delivered. As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, So is a lovely woman who lacks discretion. The desire of the righteous is only good, But the expectation of the wicked is wrath. There is one who scatters, yet increases more; And there is one who withholds more than is right, But it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself. The people will curse him who withholds grain, But blessing will be on the head of him who sells it. He who earnestly seeks good finds favor, But trouble will come to him who seeks evil. He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage. He who troubles

his own house will inherit the wind, And the fool will be servant to the wise of heart. The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise. If the righteous will be recompensed on the earth, How much more the ungodly and the sinner.” Proverbs 11:1-31 NKJV

Ancient Words of Wisdom (33-63)

33. “***Dishonest scales*** are an abomination to the Lord, But a ***just weight*** is His delight.” Proverbs 11:1 NKJV

Others

- Abomination is a strong word; it connotes the worst of offenses.
- Oftentimes it refers to the heinous acts of sexual immorality; and the defilement of ones own body with what you put on it, in it, or what you do with it; and for idolatry and the worship of false Gods.
- Compare those abominations to premeditated cheating; one must plan ahead to alter the equipment used to measure a fair transaction.
- And one must be committed to only his own well-being entirely in order to intentionally, and with malice of forethought, steal from his neighbor by stacking the cards against him.

- ☑ That is the complete opposite of what fulfills the highest commands of God—to love God by loving and preferring one’s neighbor.
- ☑ What is right in God’s eyes is to love your neighbor and not cheat him; that is God’s greatest pleasure.

34. “When **pride** comes, then comes shame; But with the **humble** is wisdom.” Proverbs 11:2 NKJV

☑ **Humility**

- ☑ If there is one infectious sin that best ruins a man’s willingness to be wrong, stand corrected, or see the truth, it is pride.
- ☑ What stands out most in pride is the letter “I”. It’s the “I” of pride that kills. But it murders oneself, not others.
- ☑ I will; I benefit; I’m first; I matter most; they all end in ruin—utter embarrassment.
- ☑ Humility speaks a different language. It’s the “U” in humility that predominates. You matter most!
- ☑ That means what you have to say is valuable enough to change my thinking, alter my decision, and set me on a new course—one that leads down all the beautiful highways and byways paved with wisdom.

35. “The **integrity** of the upright will guide them, But the **perversity** of the unfaithful will destroy them.” Proverbs 11:3 NKJV

Integrity

- A man who seeks to be godly must be aligned with the heart and will of God on all matters of life—spirit, soul, and body.
- “What does God want me to do?” is a man’s primary guiding question to ask before every decision, and then to act truthfully in what he has discovered from God, whether in private or in the company of others.
- A man who first seeks to satisfy his own perverse lustful desires will ultimately be the victim of those desires.

36. “**Riches** do not profit in the day of wrath, But **righteousness** delivers from death.” Proverbs 11:4 NKJV

Riches

- “You can’t take it with you!” famously follows the death of a rich man. Or, “You never see a U-haul following a hearse.”
- There is no amount of wealth, success, or earthly accomplishments that can satisfy the debt of a man’s sin.
- The richest of men are paupers in the day of judgment, and unless he is clothed in the garment of God’s

righteousness through Christ, death is the total at the end of his final balance sheet.

37. *“The righteousness of the **blameless** will direct his way aright, But the wicked will fall by his own **wickedness**.” Proverbs 11:5 NKJV*

Blameless

- When a man seeks to satisfy the Lord in every aspect of his life, spirit, soul, and body, his desire to do so will not only define God’s path for him, via his openness to the Holy Spirit, but the Spirit will then strengthen him and help keep him on a lighted path.
- A man who seeks to satisfy his own evil desires is a blind man walking towards the edge of a high cliff. It is just a matter of time before he splats on the escarpment.

38. *“The righteousness of the **upright** will deliver them, But the **unfaithful** will be caught by their lust.” Proverbs 11:6 NKJV*

Upright

- The man who is pure of heart is preserved in his purity; he is guarded from falling to the temptations and traps of sinful lusts.

- ☑ To the contrary, the man who goes it on his own, who believes the world is his playground and is meant to satisfy his every desire, will be ensnared by the lusts of his flesh, the lust of his eyes, and the pride of life.
- ☑ It will be as if he is trapped in the web of the most poisonous of spiders.
- ☑ It is just a matter of time before the fatal bite comes and the deadly neurotoxic and cytotoxic venom seeps into his veins and spreads like a wildfire to his organs and nerves.

39. *“When a **wicked** man dies, his expectation will perish, And the hope of the **unjust** perishes.” Proverbs 11:7 NKJV*

☑ **Injustice**

- ☑ What is your hope for the future? No man who deals in unfair practices and champions inequity will be rewarded with anything good.
- ☑ He who is motivated by evil and ways that are crooked should expect only that his life will end in utter disappointment.

40. *“The **righteous** is delivered from trouble, And it comes to the **wicked** instead.” Proverbs 11:8 NKJV*

Deliverance

- When things look like they are falling apart and there seems to be no way out, Yahweh saves the man who is dedicated to His ways and committed to live in right standing with God.
- It is actually the man who denies God, and who cares nothing about pleasing Him, who ultimately swallows the bitter pills of tribulation and affliction.

41. *“The **hypocrite** with his mouth destroys his neighbor, But through **knowledge** the righteous will be delivered.” Proverbs 11:9 NKJV*

Hypocrisy

- There is no worse type of witness than one who holds himself out with his own words to be a man of God, only to prove the opposite by his actions. This horrid type of behavior turns people away from God.
- A man who recognizes that his actions must be in harmony and in complete alignment with his words is much more effective in turning people toward God.

42. *“When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; And when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.” Proverbs 11:10 NKJV*

Corporate Celebration

- When those who follow God dominate the landscape of a region, the citizens celebrate.
- When those who are dominated by evil are exiled from that same region, the feeling of triumph is exponential.

43. *“By the blessing of the upright **the city is exalted**, But **it is overthrown** by the mouth of the wicked.” Proverbs 11:11 NKJV*

Corporate Benefits

- When those who follow God dominate the landscape of a region, the entire citizenry will participate in the benefits.
- But, if those who speak evil are permitted to influence the landscape of a region, it will fall into darkness and despair.

44. *“He who is **devoid of wisdom** despises his neighbor, But **a man of understanding** holds his peace.” Proverbs 11:12 NKJV*

Brotherly Love

- ☑ Wisdom is the godly application of this knowledge: One who knows the heart of God, and understands that His top priority is that a man would prefer the needs of others above his own needs, and will love his neighbor as he loves himself.
- ☑ When a man demonstrates this truth by his lifestyle, he will experience that there can be no greater source of joy and peace.

45. “A **talebearer** reveals secrets, But he who is of a **faithful spirit** conceals a matter.” Proverbs 11:13 NKJV

☑ **Gossip**

- ☑ A friend who can be trusted is a friend who will keep to himself what is close to his heart about others.
- ☑ It matters not if something is true or false, if it is not for others to hear, not a man’s to share and he shares it, it is gossip.
- ☑ Let nothing depart from your mouth, but that which will edify and impart grace to the hearer. Idle talk never imparts grace.

46. “Where there is **no counsel**, the people fall; But in the **multitude of counselors** there is safety.” Proverbs 11:14 NKJV

Counsel

- It is oftentimes hard for a man to make wise decisions when all he has for advice is what is already brewing between his two ears.
- Those who are subject to his leadership will face the consequences of his choices and become his unsuspecting victims.
- However, a man who seeks the advice of many others who have experience in the matters at hand, and then measures all sides to determine his best option, will most often make the wisest choice to the benefit of himself and those around him.

47. *“He who is **surety for a stranger** will suffer, But one who **hates being surety** is secure.” Proverbs 11:15 NKJV*

Security

- Making guarantees for others is never a good idea.
- It is common for the one who does so to pay a hefty price, as he must cover the expenses when things go wrong
- And things often go wrong when the person responsible for the project is not the person responsible for the money.

- ☑ Avoid covering the financial responsibilities of others and you will save a lot of heartache.

48. “A **gracious woman** retains honor, But **ruthless men** retain riches.” Proverbs 11:16 NKJV

- ☑ **Honor**

- ☑ She who will not compromise her principles to save a buck is a woman who can be admired.
- ☑ Men who will do whatever it takes to succeed, no matter who or what it violates, will likely get wealthy, but they will never be admired.

49. “The **merciful** man does good for his own soul, But he who is **cruel** troubles his own flesh.” Proverbs 11:17 NKJV

- ☑ **Mercy**

- ☑ A man who is willing to give others good things that they don't deserve, and who is also willing to withhold retribution against those who have harmed him, is a man whose mind is at ease and whose emotions are healthy.
- ☑ A man who selfishly withholds what others have earned and who demonstrates no restraint when he is wounded is a man who lives in constant turmoil.

50. “The wicked man does **deceptive work**, But he who **sows righteousness** will have a sure reward.” Proverbs 11:18 NKJV

☑ **Compromise**

- ☑ To do whatever is necessary to win is a character trait that cannot be trusted. It means a man will lie, cheat, and steal as needed, because the end always justifies the means in that man’s mind.
- ☑ The real winner is the man who will never compromise his integrity, nor violate the ways of the Lord, even if it means he must lose sometimes.

51. “As **righteousness** leads to life, So he who **pursues evil** pursues it to his own death.” Proverbs 11:19 NKJV

☑ **Pursuits**

- ☑ What a man lives for and what a man is willing to die for says everything you need to know about a man.
- ☑ Once a man is willing to stray from the pursuits that he claims are invaluable to him, because the road becomes difficult, or circumstances appear dire, every good thing he represents about himself is already dead, because he can no longer be trusted.

52. *“Those who are of a **perverse heart** are an abomination to the Lord, But the **blameless** in their ways are His delight.” Proverbs 11:20 NKJV*

☑ **Perversity**

- ☑ An abomination oftentimes refers to a heinous act of sexual immorality, or the defilement of ones own body by what you put on it, in it, or what you are willing to do with it; or for idolatry and the worship of false Gods.
- ☑ These sins begin in the mind and once they are conceived they bring forth death.
- ☑ The Lord looks upon a man whose mind is pure with great favor, and that means he must endeavor to take every thought captive and bring it into submission to God.

53. *“Though they join forces, **the wicked** will not go unpunished; But **the posterity of the righteous** will be delivered.” Proverbs 11:21 NKJV*

☑ **Succession**

- ☑ Sin and evil are like virulent infections that spread like wildfires and are highly transmissible through air, water, or direct contact.

- ☑ At times they might seem to overwhelm all that is holy to the point of no recovery, but that will not happen.
- ☑ Sin and evil will eventually be stamped out, and the future generations in the earth will ultimately be dominated by the children of God, no matter how dark it appears at times.

54. *“As a ring of gold **in a swine’s snout**, So is a lovely woman who **lacks discretion**.” Proverbs 11:22 NKJV*

☑ **Pretense**

- ☑ You can put lipstick on a pig, and adorn it with fine jewelry, and spray it with the most expensive perfumes, but in the end it is still just an unclean parasite ridden animal that does not sweat and would prefer to wallow in filth.
- ☑ And you can put lipstick on an immoral woman, and adorn her in fine jewelry, and spray her with the most expensive perfumes, but in the end she is just a harlot who throws caution to the wind and lives only for pleasure in the moment.

55. *“The **desire of the righteous** is only good, But the **expectation of the wicked** is wrath.” Proverbs 11:23 NKJV*

Hope

- If a man is a man of virtue then, in what he is willing to invest with his time, talents and resources, is always in the pursuit of what is pleasing to the Lord. As such he can expect outcomes that are infinitely satisfying.
- A man willing to dabble in evil can hope in only one thing; that he might have enough carnal pleasure in the moment to justify what is the pure horror of his eternity.

56. *“There is **one who scatters**, yet increases more; And there is **one who withholds** more than is right, But it leads to poverty.”*

Proverbs 11:24 NKJV

Limitless

- A man cannot out-give God. It would be like trying to dispense, love, or kindness, or warm hugs, and thinking somehow they could run out.
- Quite the opposite is true; the more of them a man gives, the more of them he has to give. And such is the truth with all resources that are gifts of God.
- A man who withholds a kind word, or a gentle smile, or a loving hand, in hopes that he might preserve some for later, is a man whose love tank might seem to remain

full, but he should know that stagnant water reaches a point when it is no longer drinkable.

57. *“The **generous soul** will be made rich, And **he who waters** will also be watered himself.” Proverbs 11:25 NKJV*

Benevolence

- When a man gives away the good things of God to others, they come back to him manyfold.
- It is likened to he who prepares fertile soil, spreads viral seed, supplies sufficient water, and carefully tends to his crops.
- That man’s harvest will be so abundant that he can feed all who come to him, even while he and his family enjoy a limitless feast for themselves.

58. *“The people will curse him who **withholds grain**, But blessing will be on the head of him who **sells it**.” Proverbs 11:26 NKJV*

Conduit

- It’s a man who lives in fear of lack who will withhold what he has, even when the needs surrounding him are apparent.
- A man who has the faith to make his resources available to others with open hands, with no concern for his own

needs, is a man who finds great favor from the Lord and he will always have an abundant supply.

59. *“He who earnestly **seeks good** finds favor, But trouble will come to him who **seeks evil**.” Proverbs 11:27 NKJV*

Satisfaction

- If a man focuses his energy on God’s priorities, God’s grace will empower his every endeavor and he will always feel fulfilled.
- A man who would prefer to satisfy himself will experience just enough pleasure to forever feel unsatisfied.

60. *“He who **trusts in his riches** will fall, But **the righteous** will flourish like foliage.” Proverbs 11:28 NKJV*

Aspirations

- It is hard for a rich man to experience that the fullness of God can animate his every thought, intention, desire, motivation, inspiration, and aspiration.
- That is because the riches of the world can become such a pervasive distraction they act almost like a blindfold cinched on the face of a man standing on the edge a chasm.

- ☑ The man who trusts in the Lord and seeks God's kingdom instead of earthly wealth is like a man who has planted his life by a stream of living water; his supply is never-ending and his fruit endless.

61. "He who **troubles his own house** will inherit the wind, And **the fool** will be servant to the wise of heart." Proverbs 11:29 NKJV

- ☑ **Inheritance**

- ☑ There are two types of sons; one brings nothing but shame upon his family name; his inheritance will be like bread that cannot satisfy hunger and water that leaves the throat parched.
- ☑ A wise son will inherit all the goodness of his parents' estate and he will rule over his brother who chose to embarrass his father's name.

62. "The **fruit of the righteous** is a tree of life, And he who **wins souls** is wise." Proverbs 11:30 NKJV

- ☑ **Evangelism**

- ☑ Life and death are separated by only one thing, faith in the life-giver whose fruit one must taste.

- ☑ It is the wisest of choices for a man to pick from the fruit of that tree and to both eat it and offer it to as many hungry people as possible.

63. *“If the **righteous** will be recompensed on the earth, How much more **the ungodly and the sinner.**” Proverbs 11:31 NKJV*

☑ **Compensation**

- ☑ The beauty of a life in the faith is that a glorious eternity with God is guaranteed; faith first promises that outcome, but that is not where a man begins to experience the blessings.
- ☑ Once that future is secured, the man who pursues the things of God will also experience the greatest life imaginable, right here and now!
- ☑ The opposite could not be more true for the man who rejects God; his eternity is also secure, but in the pit of hell. And his life on earth, before that dreaded permanent future begins, is like hell on earth.

NEXT TEACHING

Ancient Words of Wisdom: Volume 3 (Proverbs 12:1-28)