



Ancient Words of Wisdom: Volume 3

Ancient Words of Wisdom (64-91): Proverbs 12:1-28

“Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, But he who hates correction is stupid. A good man obtains favor from the Lord, But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn. A man is not established by wickedness, But the root of the righteous cannot be moved. An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, But she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones. The thoughts of the righteous are right, But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful. The words of the wicked are, “Lie in wait for blood,” But the mouth of the upright will deliver them. The wicked are overthrown and are no more, But the house of the righteous will stand. A man will be commended according to his wisdom, But he who is of a perverse heart will be despised. Better is the one who is slighted but has a servant, Than he who honors himself but lacks bread. A righteous man regards the life of his animal, But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel. He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread, But he who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding. The wicked

covet the catch of evil men, But the root of the righteous yields fruit. The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, But the righteous will come through trouble. A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, And the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him. The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise. A fool's wrath is known at once, But a prudent man covers shame. He who speaks truth declares righteousness, But a false witness, deceit. There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, But the tongue of the wise promotes health. The truthful lip shall be established forever, But a lying tongue is but for a moment. Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, But counselors of peace have joy. No grave trouble will overtake the righteous, But the wicked shall be filled with evil. Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, But those who deal truthfully are His delight. A prudent man conceals knowledge, But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness. The hand of the diligent will rule, But the lazy man will be put to forced labor. Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad. The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray. The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, But diligence is man's precious possession. In the way of righteousness is life, And in its pathway there is no death." Proverbs 12:1-28 NKJV

Ancient Words of Wisdom (64-91)

64. “Whoever **loves instruction** loves knowledge, But he who **hates correction** is stupid.” Proverbs 12:1 NKJV

Receptivity

- A man who is willing to be taught is a man who will continue to increase his bank of knowledge over his entire lifetime.
- The man who is always right in his own mind and who believes that he already knows everything has no room for growth or improvement.

65. “A **good man** obtains favor from the Lord, But a **man of wicked intentions** He will condemn.” Proverbs 12:2 NKJV

Intentions

- God knows the heart and it is an exercise in futility to believe things can be concealed from Him.
- A man will be either rewarded or punished by God for what he has conceived in the depths of his soul.

66. “A man is **not established** by wickedness, But **the root** of the righteous cannot be moved.” Proverbs 12:3 NKJV

Roots

- ☑ If all a man stands for is empty and shallow, he is easily tossed to and fro by every wind of change or challenge. His reputation is that of a fragile man who is inconsistent and undependable.
- ☑ A man firmly planted in what he believes and for what he represents is a man who can be trusted in all seasons and under every condition. His reputation is that of a man of integrity who is steadfast and unwavering.

67. “An **excellent wife** is the crown of her husband, But she who **causes shame** is like rottenness in his bones.” Proverbs 12:4

NKJV

☑ **Representation**

- ☑ A wife is both a reflection of her husband and his most important emissary.
- ☑ By how she represents him, she will either be an asset to him and cause him to be honored and well-respected or she will be a liability to him and cause him to be inconsequential and unimportant.

68. “The **thoughts** of the righteous are right, But the **counsels** of the wicked are deceitful.” Proverbs 12:5 NKJV

☑ **Advice**

- ☑ It is critical that a man is willing to take advice from others, but it is even more critical that he knows the character of the one from whom he is being advised.
- ☑ The man who makes what God thinks his top priority will give godly counsel; the man who is motivated by his own fleshly desires will offer shortcuts and will let expedience guide his advice

69. “The **words of the wicked** are, “Lie in wait for blood,” But the **mouth of the upright** will deliver them.” Proverbs 12:6 NKJV

☑ **Protection**

- ☑ If a man has darkness in his heart he will have no concerns for the consequences of his words; he is not surprised when they cause irreparable damage.
- ☑ A man filled with light imparts God’s grace and his top priority is the wellbeing of others. His words are guided by his first order of business; “Do no harm!”

70. “The **wicked** are overthrown and are no more, But the **house of the righteous** will stand.” Proverbs 12:7 NKJV

☑ **Resilience**

- ☑ It can be difficult to stand by and watch evil flourish and prosper. But fear not, it is guaranteed that all that it has accomplished will crumble in the end.
- ☑ All that God sees as good will prosper in the end and all the man of God must do is patiently endure the storm, as his victory is as sure as the wicked man's defeat.

71. *"A man will be **commended** according to his wisdom, But he who is of a perverse heart will be **despised**." Proverbs 12:8 NKJV*

☑ **Accommodations**

- ☑ God is just and what that means is that a man will ultimately be recognized for his true nature.
- ☑ The wise man will be loved and honored and eventually rewarded for his reputation, and the man with twisted morals will eventually be exposed and ultimately rejected and put to shame.

72. *"Better is the one who is **slighted** but has a servant, Than he who **honors himself** but lacks bread." Proverbs 12:9 NKJV*

☑ **Pretense**

- ☑ If a man is certain of his identity in the Lord, then he is unwavering even when he feels cheated. He knows that

his value is not attached to what others think and therefore he can withstand and even prosper through those difficult moments when he is not treated fairly.

- ☑ But, a man who hijacks praise and falsely claims honors for which he is undeserving will only appear to be benefiting from his pretense; those benefits are temporary and quickly fade to poverty and emptiness.

73. “A righteous man regards **the life of his animal**, But the tender mercies of the wicked are **cruel**.” Proverbs 12:10 NKJV

☑ **Humane**

- ☑ Man was given dominion over all of creation, the earth and all that is in it, including the animals.
- ☑ A good man will treat them all with utter compassion, regardless for what they are being used, including animals utilized for work and food.
- ☑ A man who has no regard for life will dismiss the importance of God’s creatures and will abuse them.

74. “He who **tills his land** will be satisfied with bread, But he who **follows frivolity** is devoid of understanding.” Proverbs 12:11 NKJV

☑ **Adulging**

- ☑ Plan ahead and work that plan and the ultimate reward is both satisfying and fruitful.
- ☑ Treat all of life like a game that is nothing to take serious and a man will receive a fool's reward.

75. *“The wicked covet **the catch of evil men**, But the root of the righteous yields **fruit**.” Proverbs 12:12 NKJV*

☑ **Piracy**

- ☑ There are men who work hard and who benefit from that hard work.
- ☑ And there are evil men who would rather do no hard work and simply wait for the opportune time to swoop in and snatch the proceeds of the man who earned it. They revel in taking what they don't deserve—stealing the benefits of someone else's work.
- ☑ And then there is a more disgusting level of darkness than even the evil man who swoops in, for at least he has taken some action; its the man who covets the fruit of that evil thief, while he himself sits motionless.

76. *“The wicked is **ensnared** by the transgression of his lips, But the righteous will **come through trouble**.” Proverbs 12:13 NKJV*

☑ **Liabe**

- ☑ If a man has no discretion for what he is willing to let slip from his mouth, he is guaranteed to be trapped by his own words and forced to make good on promises he never intended to make in the first place.
- ☑ A man who carefully measures his words never gets stuck doing what is against his integrity; he is never forced to perform something he sloppily promised in an overabundance of meaningless words.

77. “A man will be satisfied with **good by the fruit of his mouth**,
And the **recompense of a man’s hands** will be rendered to him.”

Proverbs 12:14 NKJV

☑ **Compensation**

- ☑ A man will be compensated for both what he says and what he does.
- ☑ If what he says imparts life and what he does brings value, he will be duly rewarded with great blessings.

78. “The **way of a fool** is right in his own eyes, But he who **heeds counsel** is wise.” *Proverbs 12:15 NKJV*

☑ **Choices**

- ☑ A fool is convinced that he already knows everything and that his own opinion is superior every time.

- ☑ A wise man considers the opinion of others, especially if those giving advice are reputable and experienced.

79. “**A fool’s wrath** is known at once, But **a prudent man** covers shame.” Proverbs 12:16 NKJV

- ☑ **Graciousness**

- ☑ There is nothing gracious about a foolish man; he is impetuous and will let his emotions and reflexes rule his reactions. All standing by will know immediately what he thinks at every moment. And he cares not that he makes things worse.
- ☑ A man who is judicious and measured withholds judgement until he has gained all the facts, and even then he reacts with compassion and empathy; his response is tempered with hope for resolution and restoration, not in such a way that makes things more difficult for the offender to reverse course.

80. “He who **speaks truth** declares righteousness, But a **false witness**, deceit.” Proverbs 12:17 NKJV

- ☑ **Honesty**

- ☑ Truth is always what is right in God's eyes, as anything other than truth is meant for only one thing—to manipulate others.

81. *“There is one who **speaks like the piercings of a sword**, But the **tongue of the wise** promotes health.” Proverbs 12:18 NKJV*

☑ **Words Matter**

- ☑ Life and death are in the power of the tongue. You can either drive a sword into the heart of a person with your words, or you can impart God's grace.

82. *“The truthful lip shall be **established forever**, But a lying tongue is **but for a moment**.” Proverbs 12:19 NKJV*

☑ **Immutable**

- ☑ One of the most difficult aspects of telling lies is that a man who lies must always remember what he said at a particular time to a specific person.
- ☑ Why? Because what he asserts to be true can change at any moment.
- ☑ No such difficulty exists for those who tell the truth, as the truth never changes.

83. “**Deceit** is in the heart of those who devise evil, But **counselors of peace** have joy.” Proverbs 12:20 NKJV

☑ **Peace**

- ☑ When a man knows that he is being dishonest, when all his intentions are deceptive and self-motivated, he is always on edge; he can never relax and take it easy because he knows it is inevitable that he will be exposed. He just does not know when.
- ☑ A man who provides good counsel, whose advice is always motivated by what is noble, and good, and just, and right, sleeps at night with utter contentment. He knows that what he has offered others was 100% inspired in their best interest, and not his own.

84. “**No grave trouble** will overtake the righteous, But the wicked shall be **filled with evil.**” Proverbs 12:21 NKJV

☑ **Outcomes**

- ☑ The outcome is inevitable. Wicked men invite and produce evil results.
- ☑ Those who stand firm in the things of God are ultimately shielded from the effects of wicked intentions.

85. *“Lying lips are an **abomination** to the Lord, But those who deal truthfully are His **delight**.” Proverbs 12:22 NKJV*

☑ **Opposites**

- ☑ Life and death are in the power of the tongue.
- ☑ A mouth filled with lies is an abomination and is intent on murder, whereas truth brings God pleasure because it nurtures life.
- ☑ Abomination is used to describe the most egregious of offenses against God.

86. *“A prudent man **conceals knowledge**, But the heart of fools **proclaims foolishness**.” Proverbs 12:23 NKJV*

☑ **Discretion**

- ☑ At times, it is judicious for a man to keep what he knows to himself, rather than sloppily spewing it out of his mouth at the wrong time and the risk coming across like a know-it-all.
- ☑ There is the proper time for a man to reveal things or to show how much he knows, otherwise doing so at an inopportune time makes him look like a fool, rather than one who brings truth to the table.

87. *“The hand of the diligent **will rule**, But the lazy man will be **put to forced labor**.” Proverbs 12:24 NKJV*

☑ **Position**

- ☑ A man who works hard and consistently gets the job done will build a reputation of dependability; he will quickly advance up the ranks into a leadership role, as his value is easily spotted by those in charge.
- ☑ A man who barely does the minimum to stay employed will, at best, remain in the same position indefinitely, if not being demoted or fired altogether.

88. *“Anxiety in the heart of man **causes depression**, But a good word **makes it glad**.” Proverbs 12:25 NKJV*

☑ **Affirmation**

- ☑ Unproductive unedifying self-talk can paralyze a man ultimately rendering him ineffective at most everything for which he is responsible. This can be a very depressing way to exist.
- ☑ Healthy self-talk that is affirmative nourishes the heart of a man and makes him totally effective in all his endeavors.

89. “The righteous should **choose his friends carefully**, For the way of the wicked **leads them astray**.” Proverbs 12:26 NKJV

Influence

- A man is the sum of those with whom he spends the most amount of time.
- Even though he intends to be a good influence, what is most often the outcome is that he is poorly influenced by others. Bad company corrupts good morals.
- A man of wisdom hand-selects his closest allies and he carefully vets with whom he spends time and thereby whom he is influenced.

90. “The lazy man **does not roast** what he took in hunting, But diligence is man’s **precious possession**.” Proverbs 12:27 NKJV

Stewardship

- If a man has expended the effort to obtain any of his assets, why would he not protect those assets? The answer is simple: laziness!
- That is why what a man should first seek as one of his assets is diligence. Once he has obtained diligence, all other assets increase in value exponentially.

91. *“In the way of righteousness is **life**, And in its pathway there is no **death**.” Proverbs 12:28 NKJV*

Life

- It's a simple equation; God's ways lead to life and going against His ways lead to death.
- You cannot possess both simultaneously.

NEXT TEACHING

Ancient Words of Wisdom: Volume 4 (Proverbs 13:1-25)