The Fellowship Room

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by John T Polk II For The Fellowship Room

(#98) The Proverbs of Solomon 15:22- Where Do We Go From Here?

Since God Created humans, only God can provide specific understanding of human behavior. God gave Solomon Divine Wisdom (1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10) to explain what and why behavior is as it is, and Proverbs 10:1 - 24:34 are randomly written, as if they were Judgments Solomon made about individual cases brought to him for Divine Wisdom (1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10), or simply Godgiven explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 15:22:

Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

"Counsel" (advice, wisdom, guidance, good judgment) is what may be called "a second opinion." Since God "works all things according to the counsel of His will" (Ephesians 1:11), the best "counsel" anyone can give or receive comes from God's Word.

People who act hastily on their own frequently do the wrong thing. The more we learn before we make a decision, usually the better is the decision.

Also it is not good for a soul to be without knowledge, and he sins who hastens with his feet. (Proverbs 19:2)

A husband and wife can be more balanced in decisions made together than either one acting alone! A corporation is badly run by one person who has no regard for workers or customers. Government is ruinous when it refuses to consider the people's convictions.

Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)

Wars waged with no thought for the safety of its soldiers, no planned outcome, no definition of victory, are foolish, indeed.

Plans are established by counsel; by wise counsel wage war. (Proverbs 20:18)

Plans are successfully carried out when "counsel" is deeply considered.

Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out. (Proverbs 20:5)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

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The older we get, the wiser we become, if, in our experiences, we have learned to "listen to counsel."

Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days. (Proverbs 19:20)

Nothing anyone advises us to do that is against God's Will is right!

There is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the LORD. (Proverbs 21:30)

Even the Jewish teacher, Gamaliel, told opponents of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, 'And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it-- lest you even be found to fight against God.' And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. (Acts 5:38-40)

Sweet smells satisfy like good advice from a trusted friend.

Ointment and perfume delight the heart, and the sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel. (Proverbs 27:9)

It's not just "counsel" but the wise counsel that helps good "plans" accomplish their goal. Who is advising you about clothes, hairstyle, tattoos, piercings, friends, music, recreation, education, drugs, job, marriage and family? The best "counsel" comes from God's Word and from those who have learned His Wisdom. Jesus Christ is called "Counselor, Mighty God" in Isaiah 9:6. He gives only the best advice.

Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. (1 Corinthians 1:20-24)

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