

## Handling the Future, Honor, and Wisdom

### Proverbs 27 pt 5

“As water reflects the face, so the heart reflects the person.”-Proverbs 27:19

**As you reflect on your lifestyle and habits, what are some things that reveal who you really are?**

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\*Everyday A\_\_\_\_\_ (How we t\_\_\_\_\_ people who can't benefit us, patience in frustration)

\*Words & Communication (What we t\_\_\_\_\_ about when no one is prompting us, tone)

\*Choices & P\_\_\_\_\_ (Where we s\_\_\_\_\_ our energy, Consistency between values/actions)

\*Inner Compass (What moves us e\_\_\_\_\_, Our capacity for forgiveness)

**“Our true hearts are revealed less by what we profess and more by what we practice.”**

### ● Handling the Future, Honor, and Wisdom pt 5

**18 Whoever tends a fig tree will eat its fruit, and whoever looks after his master will be honored.**

**What is the main idea of this proverb?**

➤ The r\_\_\_\_\_ of hard work and faithfulness.

King Solomon teaches us that, typically, people who put in the work see the expected rewards of those efforts. Farmers can't reap c\_\_\_\_\_ unless they p\_\_\_\_\_ and tend to them. Athletes only succeed because they've invested time and effort in t\_\_\_\_\_.

Did you know, figs were an important source of food in the ancient world? What was the significance of the connection between the fig tree and Israel in Matthew 21:18-19?

✓ Un-fruitfulness and expectation of genuine f\_\_\_\_\_!

**What can we do to encourage ourselves and others to work hard and honor the Lord?**

\*Commit our w\_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord

\*Be f\_\_\_\_\_ in little things

\*Enjoy the process

\*Trust in G\_\_\_\_\_

**How can we apply this verse to our spiritual journey?**

- All of us have been g\_\_\_\_\_ life and gifts to grow and bless others; we are responsible to use them to glorify God.
- Any righteous effort to work hard, for the right things, will ultimately be r\_\_\_\_\_ by God.
- ❖ Matthew 5:16; 25:19-21; Colossians 3:17

## **19 As water reflects the face, so the heart reflects the person.**

### **Notice the comparison:**

- W\_\_\_\_\_ & H\_\_\_\_\_

Water is smooth and clear and can give a reflection of someone's face showing exactly what they look like. So it is with the heart; it too reflects who we really are.

### **As it relates to the heart, is King Solomon referring to our physical organ or our emotions, thoughts and attitudes?**

**Heart:** Hebrew Word leb; Occurs nearly 600 times; the inner life of humankind, mind, sense, emotion, conscience, spiritual perception, understanding, the will and intellect.

### **Thinking about this from a spiritual perspective, what does our hearts reveal about our maturity?**

- \*Relationship w/ G\_\_\_\_\_ (Prayer life, Worship, Obedience)
- \*Fruits of the Spirit (These aren't just behaviors; they are evidence of a Spirit led heart)
- \*Trials & T\_\_\_\_\_ (Responses under pressure, forgiveness and mercy)
- \*Hidden Motives (What we treasure or l\_\_\_\_\_ for in secret)
- \*Compassion & S\_\_\_\_\_ (Care for those who don't have, giving without expecting a return)

### **What can we do if our hearts don't reflect the kind of person we want to be?**

- Ask God to give you and n\_\_\_\_\_ and c\_\_\_\_\_ heart.
- ❖ Psalm 51:10; Ezekiel 36:26; Jeremiah 24:7

## **20 Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, and people's eyes are never satisfied.**

### **Notice the comparison:**

- S\_\_\_\_\_ & A\_\_\_\_\_ Vs. People's e e\_\_\_\_\_

Sheol and Abaddon refer to Hell and destruction. King Solomon is saying no matter how

much death and destruction occur, there will always be more. Death does not slow down because it becomes full. So it is with g\_\_\_\_. No matter how much we have, we can always desire more.

*“Greed is a bottomless pit which exhausts the person in an endless effort to satisfy the need without ever reaching satisfaction.”*

**What are some actions we can take to quench our desire for more?**

- \*Cultivate g\_\_\_\_\_ (Daily thanksgiving, gratitude prayers)
- \*Practice c\_\_\_\_\_ (Meditate on scriptures, simplify our life)
- \*Redirect our d\_\_\_\_\_ (Seek eternal treasures, channel longing into prayer)
- \*Embrace spiritual d\_\_\_\_\_ (Fasting, generosity, silence and solitude)
- \*Reframe Perspective (Remember it’s only temporary, trust God’s provision)

❖ Psalm 23:1; Philippians 4:11-13

**21 As a crucible refines silver, and a smelter refines gold, so a person should refine his praise.**

**What important lesson is King Solomon teaching in this verse?**

➤ Be c\_\_\_\_\_ of praise! 1 Samuel 18:7

**Refiner:** Takes precious metals (gold & silver) and sits with them by a refining pot until the impurities rise to the surface and they are scrapped off.

King Solomon warns us that praise reveals what is in our hearts. We can see this by the praise we receive and the things we praise.

**What are some ways we can refine our praise?**

- \*Stay h\_\_\_\_\_ (Deflect the praise to God, stay teachable)
- \*Remember who you are ( See yourself as a v\_\_\_\_\_)
- \*Watch your perspective (Receive w/ gratitude, not entitlement or validation)

❖ Luke 14:11; 2 Corinthians 10:17-18; James 4:10

**What is one thing you have learned that you are willing to share with someone else?**

“Exaltation does not come from the east, the west, or the desert, for God is the Judge: He brings down one and exalts another.” -Psalm 75:6-7