

PROVERBS 6:6-11 & 24:30-24
“*Lazybones: A Sermon on 6 Legs*”

LET'S PRAY -

AS YOU SETTLE IN PLEASE TURN TO PROVERBS 6...

- I've titled tonight's message: “*Lazybones: A Sermon on 6 legs*”

INTRO -

(READ V.6-11)

HAS ANYONE HERE EVER GREW UP SHINING A MAGNIFINE GLASS
OVER ANTS?

- In the World there are 12,000 species of ants
- And there are over 20 Quadrillion ants on earth (20^{16})
 - 2.5m ants :1 Human
- They are on every continent except for Antarctica
 - Ants are even in space!

(READ V.6-8)

IDEA 1 - Lessons from the Ants

GO STUDY THE ANTS AND SEE WHAT LESSONS WE CAN LEARN

- So my apologies in advance if little bugs make you uncomfortable!
 - [Backyard hill of ants]

THESE ARE HIGHLY ORGANIZED CREATURES

- Colonies like cities. If you look at one, you'll see they organize their food, their shelter, they have streets and supply rooms, a hatchery and a barracks
 - Some colonies have even been found containing 300 million
 - It's like one giant volunteer army. No guide, no leader

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THEY OPERATE VERY UNSELFISHLY

- Romans 12:4-5 NLT
 - And when everyone does their part what happens to the body?

ANTS DO NOT NEED A SUPERVISOR TO TELL THEM WHAT TO DO

- A Mature believer doesn't need external motivation
 - They are the ones who see a need and then immediately fill that need
 - By doing so they naturally become a blessing to others
 - Ants are able to carry 50x their weight...

LESSONS FROM OUR TEACHERS:

HONEYPOT ANTS - Live generous lives concerned for others

LEAF CUTTER ANTS - They know that today's work is tomorrow reward

ARMY ANTS - They support one another

SUGAR ANTS - They are good stewards of resources

([READ CHAPTER 24:30-34](#))

IDEA 2 - The Damage of Neglect and Wasted Potential

IN CHAPTER 6 SOLOMON GAVE US AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW

- And now we are seeing an example of what not to follow

THE WORD FOR LAZYBONES OR SLUGGARD IS THE EXACT SAME

- This word occurs 14 other times in the proverbs

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- It refers to more than just being lazy, and other times that word is contrasted with the "Upright" or the "Righteous"
- It is a person who lacks common sense or undisciplined

AND HE PAINTS A PICTURE OF WHAT HE IS SEEING

- A field that is covered in weeds and thorns with broken down walls
 - This is ultimately a picture of wasted potential
 - How much of our lives looks like this where God wants to cultivate growth and do something great but we are unwilling to remove the weeds?

LAWS OF THERMODYNAMICS

- "The Second Law of Thermodynamics states that the entropy of a closed system tends to increase over time, meaning processes will spontaneously proceed in a direction that increases the overall disorder"
 - Entropy is a natural yet gradual decline into disorder
 - Here the principle: It doesn't take hard work to grow bad habits in your life. It takes hard work to clean those habits up!
 - These things don't happen over night

THIS PLACE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A VINEYARD

- A field that would have provided fruit, in which could have been a blessing to others
 - But instead it was covered in thorns and thistles
 - These things don't offer anything of substance to anyone but if you get close enough they might hurt

(READ CHAPTER 24:30-32)

THE BROKEN DOWN WALLS SPEAKS OF A LACK OF PROTECTION

- Parents you have a responsibility for whatever comes into your house
 - The things you watch, the conversations you have, it will all effect your children
 - Key: When you lead a household you have those watching you and they will be more impacted by what you tolerate rather than what you preach

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- If you live a life of a lazy person chances are your children will follow in your practices

CHAPTER 6 (READ V.9-11)

IDEA 3 - Rest and Spiritual Laziness

(READ V.4-6)

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO SLEEP FOR?

- Obviously everyone needs sleep, Solomon's advice is not that we would never sleep and survive on caffeine but that we should not excessively sleep
 - What he is talking about is procrastination
 - Please understand that rest is good and needed
 - So much so that God even gave us a commandment to rest
 - Too much of a good thing can turn into a bad thing
 - Without rest you will just burn out

THE PROBLEM BECOMES WHEN WE MISALLOCATE OUR TIME TO WORK AND TIME TO REST

- “We have become a generation of people who worship our work, work at our play and play at our worship” - Charles Swindoll
 - Understand that God wants to give you rest

TO MAINTAIN LONG-TERM HEALTH AND SUCCESS

4 KINDS OF REST:

- a. Passive Rest = Time to relax and unwind
- b. Active Rest = Hobbies, exercise and activities
- c. Social Rest = Enjoying time with others
- d. Spiritual Rest = Lingering with God
- These are just practical areas of life that need attention for rest
 - Don't be so spiritual that you miss the practical and don't be so practical that you miss the spiritual

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SOLOMON IS TALKING ABOUT PROCRASTINATION

- It's no different than Paul in the New Testament Where he tells us to take advantage of the time we have (Ephesians)
 - Luke 9:59-60 NLT
 - Let's clear something up...
 - You are accountable to answer when Jesus says follow me!
 - Proverbs 26:13 NLT

DETERMINE TODAY HOW YOU WANT TO LIVE YOUR LIFE

- James 4:17 NLT
 - If we are working now to store up treasures in heaven as a Christian, then a choice has to be made...
 - If we refuse to do the work now, we will be spiritually bankrupt later

CALL WORSHIP UP

APPLICATION

GOD'S DESIRE FOR YOU IS TO CULTIVATE YOUR LIFE INTO
SOMETHING AMAZING

- Don't hold off and procrastinate on the blessings God wants to give you

PRAY