

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Favorite Proverbs Bible Study - Part 2

Proverbs 18:10-17 Lesson #5

**INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in Proverbs before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word. Most Scriptures are from the New King James Version.

10 **The name of the LORD is a strong TOWER; the righteous run to it and are SAFE.”**

•**Psalm 61:1-3** “Hear my cry, O God; attend to my _____ . From the end of the earth I will cry to You, when my _____ is _____ ; lead me to the _____ that is higher than I. For You have been a _____ for me, and a _____ from the enemy.”

•**Psalm 62:1-2** “Truly my soul silently waits for _____ ; from Him comes my _____ ; He only is my _____ and my salvation; He is my _____ ; I shall not be greatly moved.”

•**Psalm 62:5-7** “My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from Him; He only is my _____ and my _____ ; He is my _____ ; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory; the _____ of my _____ , and my _____ is in God.”

•**Psalm 77:1-3** “I _____ out to the _____ with my voice – to God with my _____ ; and He gave ear to me. In the day of my _____ I sought the _____ ; my hand was stretched out in the night without ceasing; my _____ refused to be comforted. I _____ God, and was troubled; I complained, and my _____ was _____ .”

•**Psalm 91:2** “I will say of the _____ , ‘He is my _____ and my _____ ; my God, in Him I will _____ .’

•**Psalm 142:5-6** “I cried out to You, O Lord: I said, ‘You are my _____ , my portion in the land of the living. Attend to my _____ , for I am brought very low; _____ me from my _____ , for they are _____ then I.’”

•**Psalm 141:8** “But my eyes are upon _____ , O God the _____ ; in You I take _____ ; do not leave my soul destitute.”

Definition: “He is my REFUGE and my FORTRESS” – A refuge means a SAFE PLACE to go to, and a place of REST. A fortress is also a SAFE PLACE, but more of the meaning of safety when fighting with ENEMIES. To say, “The name of the LORD is a strong TOWER” means the same as a FORTRESS and a REFUGE. **God’s NAME means His entire CHARACTER**, and our God is ALL of these things for us.

•**Psalm 18:2** “The _____ is my _____ and my _____ and my deliverer; my _____ , my strength, in whom I will _____ ; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my _____ .” (KJV says “strong tower”).

11 **The RICH man’s WEALTH is his strong city, and like a high wall in his OWN ESTEEM.**

•**James 1:9-11** “Let the _____ brother glory in his _____ , but the _____ in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the _____ _____

also will _____ in his pursuits.”

Definition: “The RICH man’s WEALTH is his strong city, and like a high wall in his OWN ESTEEM” – This is in CONTRAST to the person who puts their trust in the Lord (see verse 10 above). **The rich person may think his wealth will save him** in the day of trouble, but riches can disappear in a moment, and our only TRUE refuge is in the Lord our God. **“In his OWN ESTEEM” means in his own IMAGINATION.**

• **Jeremiah 9:23-24** “.....Let not the wise man _____ in his wisdom; let not the mighty man glory (boast) in his might; let not the _____ man glory in his _____ but let him that _____ glory in this, that he understands and _____ Me, that I am the _____ who exercises loving kindness, judgment and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I delight, says the _____.”

• **Luke 16:19 & 22** “There was a certain _____ man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day.” (Verse 22) “So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the _____ to Abraham’s bosom. The _____ man also _____ and was buried. And being in _____ in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.”

• **Luke 12:20** “But _____ said to him (the rich man), ‘You _____! This night your _____ will be required of you (you will die); then _____ will those _____ be which you have provided?’”

Definition: “But the RICH in his HUMILIATION” – In this context, “humiliation” means being made HUMBLE or made low. James is speaking to “brothers”, so he means a **RICH man who is a Christian brother.** The Christian who is wealthy or well-off financially **should not be PROUD or glory in his riches**, but should humbly depend on God, and **use his riches for God’s glory** in expanding His kingdom.

12 **Before DESTRUCTION the HEART of a man is HAUGHTY, and before HONOR is HUMILITY.**

• **Proverbs 9:10** “The _____ of the _____ is the _____ of _____, and the _____ of the _____ One is _____.”

• **I Peter 5:5** “Likewise you younger people, _____ yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with _____, for ‘God _____ the _____, but gives _____ to the _____.’”

• **Proverbs 15:33** “The _____ of the _____ is the instruction of wisdom, and _____ is _____.”

• **Proverbs 16:18** “_____ goes before _____, and a _____ spirit before a _____.”

Definition: “Before HONOR is HUMILITY” – “HAUGHTY” means proud and prideful, the OPPOSITE of HUMILITY, which means being HUMBLE. Some people say things like, “I demand that you respect me” or “I deserve to be honored and respected.” **This is their PRIDE speaking, and only by being HUMBLE will we ever get true respect and honor from other people,** and HUMILITY is absolutely necessary if we ever want to receive HONOR from God. **Jesus is our perfect EXAMPLE when He washed the disciples’ feet.** He was God in the flesh, yet He did the job of a lowly servant as **He humbled Himself** to wash their feet.

• **John 13:12-16** “So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, “Do you _____ what I have _____ to you? You call

Me teacher and _____, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your _____ and Teacher, have _____ your _____, _____ also _____ to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an _____, that you _____ do as _____ have _____ to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his Master; nor is he who is sent greater than He who sent him."

• **Peter 2:21-24** "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an _____, that you should _____ His steps."

• **Matthew 10:24** "A _____ is not above his _____, nor a _____ above (greater than) his _____."

Definition: "YOU also OUGHT to wash ONE ANOTHER'S feet" — We know Jesus is not talking about LITERALLY taking water and washing one another's feet in the church, because He had just said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" and "**What I am doing you do NOT understand now.**" What Jesus is talking about is our **HUMBLING OURSELVES and being willing to SERVE one another in the Body of Christ.** No one in the Church of Jesus Christ should EVER think they have such a high position that they cannot or will not humble themselves to do a lowly job, or to be a servant to a brother or sister in Christ. No title of Elder, Pastor, "Reverend", Bishop, Minister, Deacon, or whatever should ever make one think they should BE SERVED rather than SERVE OTHERS.

• **Romans 12:10** "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly _____, in honor giving _____ to one _____."

• **Philippians 2:3** "Let nothing be done through _____ ambition or conceit, but in _____ of mind let each esteem (regard) _____ better than _____."

13-14 **He who ANSWERS a matter BEFORE he HEARS IT**, it is folly and shame to him. **The SPIRIT of a MAN will SUSTAIN him in SICKNESS**, but who can bear a **BROKEN SPIRIT?**

• **Psalms 34:16-17** "For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The _____ of God are a _____, a _____ and contrite _____ – these, O God, You will not despise.

• **Psalms 34:18** "The Lord is _____ to those who have a _____; and saves such as are of a contrite _____."

Definition: "He who ANSWERS a matter BEFORE he HEARS IT" – Some people are not good listeners, and they jump right in and try to answer someone's questions, or comment on what they're saying, before the person has even finished talking.

Definition: "The SPIRIT of a MAN will SUSTAIN him in SICKNESS" – We've all heard stories, or even known **someone who just GAVE UP and lost the DESIRE to LIVE.** If our spirit is TRUSTING in GOD, we will not give up, and that strong spirit will bring us through whatever sickness or difficult time we are experiencing.

• **John 5:5-7** "Now a certain man was there who had an _____ thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "_____ you _____ to be made _____?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

Definition: "Do you WANT to be made well?" — At first, this seems like a strange question.

Who wouldn't want to be made well of something like that? But Jesus knew that there were some, and there are people today, who ENJOY their helplessness or sickness. It is a way of getting attention or sympathy. For some, it is a way of avoiding responsibilities. Many people just crawl into a "hole" and say, "I can't do this or that, because of my affliction." There are Christians who complain day after day about their lives, but will make no effort to change them. Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do ALL THINGS through Christ who strengthens me," but they **don't really believe it.**

•**Philippians 4:13** "I _____ do _____ through _____ who _____ me,"

Definition: "Who can bear a BROKEN SPIRIT?" – There is a good kind of broken spirit, and also a bad kind of broken spirit. The good kind is when a person HUMBLER himself before God in REPENTANCE of their sins. **The bad kind is where a person just GIVES up and wants to die, or has NO HOPE at all.** The Apostle Paul had some experiences where he **ALMOST gave up**, but he learned to trust in the Lord to bring him through whatever difficulties he encountered, whether sickness, persecution, or prison.

•**II Corinthians 1:8-9** "For we do _____ want you to be _____, brethren, of our _____ which came to us in Asia; that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we _____ even of _____. Yes, we had the sentence of _____ in _____, that we should _____ in ourselves, but in _____ who raises the _____."

15-17 The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. **A man's GIFT makes room for him, and brings him before great men. The FIRST one to PLEAD his CAUSE seems RIGHT,** until his neighbor comes and examines him.

•**Proverbs 18:13** "He who _____ a matter _____ he _____ it, it is _____ and _____ to him."

Definition: "A man's GIFT makes room for him" – This time, it is not talking about BRIBES, but just a nice GIFT to give to someone to help OPEN the WAY for them to come before AUTHORITY FIGURES or in any other kind of situation where you want people to like you and hear you. This is the philosophy behind MEDICAL MISSIONARIES who go into poor countries to help and heal people, but **their kindnesses help open the way** for the missionaries to preach the gospel. It also makes me think of Samaritan's Purse who send workers into communities where homes have been destroyed by hurricanes, floods, tornados, etc., and they help re-build people's homes as they also give them the gospel.

•**Matthew 25:34-40** "Then the King (Jesus) will say to those on his right hand, 'Come, you _____ of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was _____ and you gave Me _____; I was thirsty and you gave Me _____; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was _____ and you _____ me; I was _____ and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You _____ and _____ You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or _____ and _____ You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My _____, you did it to Me.'"

Definition: "The FIRST one to PLEAD his CAUSE seems RIGHT" – We should not make up our minds about situations until we hear BOTH sides of the story.