

# “Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

## Favorite Proverbs Bible Study - Part 1

### Proverbs 14:2-9 Lesson #14

\*\*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.

2-3 He who walks in his uprightness **fears the Lord**, but he who is perverse in his ways despises Him. In **the mouth of a fool** is a rod of pride, but the lips of the wise will preserve them.

• **Proverbs 18:2** “A \_\_\_\_\_ has no delight in \_\_\_\_\_, but [*only*] in expressing \_\_\_\_\_ heart (his own feelings and opinions).”

• **Proverbs 12:15** “The way of a \_\_\_\_\_ is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds (pays attention to) counsel is \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **I Corinthians 2:14-15** “But the natural man (non-believer) does not \_\_\_\_\_ (understand) the things of the Spirit of God, for they are \_\_\_\_\_ to him; nor can he \_\_\_\_\_ them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges (discerns) all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.”

**Definition: “The Fear of the Lord”** – Reverential AWE and RESPECT for God, especially as EVIDENCED by OBEDIENCE to His commands and **DOING His will**. The New Testament equivalent is HOLY LIVING and being FILLED with the SPIRIT. As we OBEY God’s commands that we see in His word, even the simplest ones, He will REVEAL **more of His will** for our lives to us. Why should He give us more detailed information if we don’t even obey His will that is revealed in His word?

• **Deuteronomy 10:12-13** “And now, Israel, what does the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ of you, but to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ your God, to \_\_\_\_\_ in all His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Him, and to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord your God with all your \_\_\_\_\_ and with all your \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord’s \_\_\_\_\_ and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your \_\_\_\_\_?”

4 **Where no oxen are, the trough is clean**; but much increase comes by the strength of an ox.

• **I Corinthians 9:9-10** “For it is \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, ‘You shall not \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ while it \_\_\_\_\_ out the grain.’ Is it \_\_\_\_\_ God is concerned about? Or does \_\_\_\_\_ it altogether for \_\_\_\_\_ sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope.”

• **II Timothy 2:4** “No one engaged in warfare \_\_\_\_\_ himself with the \_\_\_\_\_ of this \_\_\_\_\_, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.”

**Definition: “Where no oxen are, the trough is clean”** – This is a saying that means if you are not doing anything, your house will be clean or empty, but **if you are DOING SOMETHING, especially working for the Lord**, you may not have time to keep your house as clean as you would like, or attend to other daily matters. This doesn’t mean that we can just forget about our daily duties, but just **not to get “entangled” in them, which means worried and anxious about them**. Doing God’s work should come first, and trust Him for the rest.

• **Matthew 6:33** “But seek \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and His

\_\_\_\_\_ , and \_\_\_\_\_ these things shall be \_\_\_\_\_ to you.”

5 A faithful witness **does not LIE, but a FALSE WITNESS will utter LIES.**

• **Exodus 20:16** “You shall not bear \_\_\_\_\_ against your neighbor.”

• **Romans 13:8-10** “Owe no one anything except to \_\_\_\_\_ one another, for he who \_\_\_\_\_ another (including his wife) has fulfilled the law. For the \_\_\_\_\_, ‘You shall not \_\_\_\_\_, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall \_\_\_\_\_ bear \_\_\_\_\_, You shall not \_\_\_\_\_, and if there is any other commandment, are all \_\_\_\_\_ up in this saying, namely, ‘You shall \_\_\_\_\_ your neighbor \_\_\_\_\_.’”

• **Ephesians 4:25** “Therefore, putting away \_\_\_\_\_, [let] each one speak \_\_\_\_\_ with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.”

• **Colossians 3:9** “Do not \_\_\_\_\_ to one \_\_\_\_\_, since you have put off the old man with his deeds.”

• **Revelation 21:8** “But the cowardly, \_\_\_\_\_, abominable, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all \_\_\_\_\_ shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

**Definition: “A FALSE WITNESS will utter LIES”** – “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” is one of the TEN COMMANDMENTS, **so there is no excuse for anyone to think they can LIE and get away with it in God’s sight!**

• **Proverbs 6:16-19** “These six things the Lord \_\_\_\_\_, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: a \_\_\_\_\_ look, a \_\_\_\_\_ tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises \_\_\_\_\_, feet that are swift in running to evil, a \_\_\_\_\_ witness who \_\_\_\_\_, and one who sows discord among brethren.”

6 A scoffer **SEEKS WISDOM and does NOT FIND it**, but knowledge is easy to him who understands.

• **James 1:5-8** “If any of you \_\_\_\_\_, let him \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, who \_\_\_\_\_ to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_\_\_, for he who \_\_\_\_\_ is like a wave of the \_\_\_\_\_ driven and tossed by the wind. For let \_\_\_\_\_ that man suppose that he will receive \_\_\_\_\_ from the Lord; he is a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ man, \_\_\_\_\_ in all his ways”

• **1 Kings 3:9-10** “Therefore give to Your servant an \_\_\_\_\_ heart to judge Your people, that I may \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours? And the speech \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord, that Solomon had \_\_\_\_\_ this thing.”

• **Proverbs 9:10** “The \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ is the beginning of \_\_\_\_\_ and the knowledge of the Holy One is \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Proverbs 2:2-3 & 6** “So that you incline your ear to \_\_\_\_\_, and apply your heart to \_\_\_\_\_; yes, if you cry out for \_\_\_\_\_, and lift up your voice for \_\_\_\_\_,” (Verse 6) “For the \_\_\_\_\_ gives \_\_\_\_\_ from His mouth come \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **James 3:17** “But the \_\_\_\_\_ that is from above is first \_\_\_\_\_, then peaceable, \_\_\_\_\_, willing to \_\_\_\_\_, full of \_\_\_\_\_ and good fruits, without partiality and without \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: "A scoffer SEEKS WISDOM and does NOT FIND it"** – James 1:5-6 says God **"GIVES to all liberally and WITHOUT REPROACH" if they ask for wisdom.** Without reproach means God does not criticize us or put us down when we ask for WISDOM. So why would a scoffer NOT find wisdom from God? It's because **a scoffer is one who doesn't really believe,** and James 1:6 says the DOUBLE-MINDED person (the same as a scoffer) should not expect to receive anything from God.

• **James 4:8** "Draw \_\_\_\_\_ to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_, you \_\_\_\_\_."

• **Matthew 7:7-8** "\_\_\_\_\_ and it will be \_\_\_\_\_ to you; \_\_\_\_\_, and you will \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ and it will be opened to you. For everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ receives, and he who \_\_\_\_\_ finds, and to him who \_\_\_\_\_ it will be opened."

• **Jeremiah 29:12-13** "Then you will call upon Me, and I will \_\_\_\_\_ to you. And you will \_\_\_\_\_ Me and \_\_\_\_\_ Me, when you \_\_\_\_\_ for Me with \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_."

• **Isaiah 57:20-21** "But the \_\_\_\_\_ are like the troubled \_\_\_\_\_, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. 'There is no \_\_\_\_\_,' says my God, 'for the \_\_\_\_\_.'"

**Definition: "NOT RECEIVE ANYTHING from the LORD"** – "Let not that man suppose that he shall receive anything from the Lord" - Some people think GOD WILL GO AHEAD AND BLESS them AUTOMATICALLY, IN SPITE OF THEIR DOUBTING HIM. God's word says just the OPPOSITE - it takes steadfastness, just HANGING IN THERE, patience and BEING CONSISTENT to RECEIVE from God.

• **I John 3:22** "And whatever we \_\_\_\_\_ we \_\_\_\_\_ from Him, because we keep (obey) His \_\_\_\_\_ and do those things that are \_\_\_\_\_ in His sight."

7-8 Go from the presence of a foolish man, when you do not perceive in him the lips of knowledge. The wisdom of the prudent is **to understand his way,** but **the FOLLY of FOOLS is DECEIT.**

• **Colossians 2:8** "\_\_\_\_\_ lest anyone \_\_\_\_\_ you through \_\_\_\_\_ and empty \_\_\_\_\_, according to the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, according to the basic principles of the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ according to \_\_\_\_\_."

• **James 1:16** "Do \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_, my beloved brethren."

• **Jeremiah 17:9** "The heart is more \_\_\_\_\_ than all else, and desperately \_\_\_\_\_, who can know it?"

• **I John 3:7** "Little children, let no one \_\_\_\_\_ you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "The FOLLY of FOOLS is DECEIT"** – The first part of this verse says the prudent or wise person will **"understand his way."** This sounds a lot like a person who is working the 12-Steps, especially when it comes to doing the Step 4 personal inventory. The fool, however, is what the 12-Steps calls "being in DENIAL" - that's what it means here in Proverbs by **the FOLLY of FOOLS is DECEIT. Deceit and denial are the same thing, because a person can be SELF-DECEIVED or deceiving themselves.** Jesus said in John 8:31-32 "If you abide in My WORD, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and **the TRUTH shall make you FREE.**" God's word is TRUTH, and the more we study and take in His word, the more freedom we will experience. However, there is another kind of truth that will help to set us free, and that is **facing the truth about ourselves.** If we fearlessly make an inventory of our lives, and search for the truth behind some of our actions and

attitudes, God can use that knowledge, together with His truth from His word, to set us free from old habits, wrong ideas, etc. If you do an honest and thorough 4<sup>th</sup> Step, you will bring up a lot of things that MUST be brought up, so that you can face it, confess it, and give all the bad to your Heavenly Father so that He can forgive it (see I John 1:9).

• **I John 1:8** "If we say that we have no \_\_\_\_\_, we \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves, and the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ in us."

• **Psalm 66:18** "If I regard \_\_\_\_\_ in my \_\_\_\_\_, the Lord will \_\_\_\_\_ hear [me]."

• **Psalm 86:11-12** "\_\_\_\_\_ me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ to fear Your name. I will praise You, O Lord my God, with \_\_\_\_\_ my heart, and I will glorify Your name forevermore."

**Definition: "Empty DECEIT" and "According to the TRADITION of MEN"** – Jesus had a lot to say about the Pharisees and others who followed man-made religious traditions instead of following the word of God. This is still a problem in the world today, and many churches have been infiltrated and ruined by false teachers who have come in, and no one stopped them. **The words "empty deceit" are also translated as VANITY in some Bible translations, and Paul calls them "vain babblings" in I Timothy 6:20.** Vanity is something **VAIN and worthless, EMPTY.**

• **Mark 7:6-7, 9 & 13** "He answered and said to them (the Pharisees), 'Well did Isaiah prophesy of you \_\_\_\_\_, as it is written: "This people \_\_\_\_\_ Me with their \_\_\_\_\_, but their \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ from Me. And in \_\_\_\_\_ they worship Me, \_\_\_\_\_ as doctrines the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.'" (Verse 9) "And He said to them, 'All too well you \_\_\_\_\_ the commandment of \_\_\_\_\_, that you may keep your \_\_\_\_\_.'" (Verse 13) "Making the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ effect through your \_\_\_\_\_ which you have handed down. And many such things you do."

9 **Fools mock at sin**, but among the upright there is favor.

**Galations 6:7-9** "Do not be \_\_\_\_\_--, God is \_\_\_\_\_; for whatever a man \_\_\_\_\_, that he will also \_\_\_\_\_. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

**Definition: "Do NOT be DECEIVED, God is NOT MOCKED"** — To be "deceived" is to be IN DENIAL and not seeing life for what it truly is - to BELIEVE a LIE. To MOCK means to treat with CONTEMPT, insult; to DEFY or CHALLENGE. Some people hear God's commandments, but **seem to think it doesn't apply to them**, and that they can break His commandments and get away with it without any consequences. Just because you do not see the consequences happening immediately in your life or in someone else's life, doesn't mean that you or they are getting away with anything. **This is what it means by "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked." You can't fool God, and the CONSEQUENCES will CATCH UP with you eventually.** Ecclesiastes 8:11 says, "Because **the sentence against an evil deed is not executed quickly**, therefore the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil." Some people, especially the unsaved, but also some Christians, think they are getting away with their sin. **They think that the harvest time will never come** where they will reap their crop of corruption. Don't be a fool! The extreme consequences of being a fool and disregarding God's warnings are mentioned **all throughout Proverbs.**