

# Proverbs 06 - Good Business Practices; God's Hate List; Sexual Purity

## II. Solomon's 12 lessons of wisdom to his son(s) (Prov 1:8—9:18)

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## Proverbs 6

(9) Lesson 9: Avoid surety, laziness, worthless persons, and the things God hates (6:1-19)

(A) Suretyship (6:1-5)

(a) Condition of suretyship (6:1-2)

1 My son, if you have become a guarantor for your neighbor, *Or* have given a handshake for a stranger,

1 My son, if you have become surety for your neighbor, Have given a pledge for a stranger,

1 My son, if you guarantee a loan for your neighbor, if you have agreed to a deal with a stranger,

1 My son, if thou be surety for thy friend, if thou hast stricken thy hand with a stranger,

2 *If* you have been ensnared by the words of your mouth, *Or* caught by the words of your mouth,

2 *If* you have been snared with the words of your mouth, Have been caught with the words of your mouth,

2 trapped by your own words, and caught by your own words,

2 Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

(b) Command to be freed from suretyship (6:3)

3 Then do this, my son, and save yourself: Since you have come into the hand of your neighbor, Go, humble yourself, and be urgent with your neighbor *to free yourself*.

3 Do this then, my son, and deliver yourself; Since you have come into the hand of your neighbor, Go, humble yourself, and importune your neighbor.

3 then do this, my son, and deliver yourself, because you have come under your neighbor's control. Go, humble yourself! Plead passionately with your neighbor!

3 Do this now, my son, and deliver thyself, when thou art come into the hand of thy friend; go, humble thyself, and make sure thy friend.

(c) Speed at which a person should be freed from suretyship (6:4-5)

4 Give no sleep to your eyes, Nor slumber to your eyelids;

4 Give no sleep to your eyes, Nor slumber to your eyelids;

4 Don't allow yourself to sleep or even to close your eyes.

4 Give not sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids.

- 5 Save yourself like a gazelle from *the hunter's* hand, And like a bird from the hand of the fowler.
- 5 Deliver yourself like a gazelle from *the hunter's* hand And like a bird from the hand of the fowler.
- 5 Deliver yourself like a gazelle from a hunter's hand, or like a bird from a fowler's hand.
- 5 Deliver thyself as a roe from the hand of the hunter, and as a bird from the hand of the fowler.

(B) Laziness (6:6-11)

(a) Sluggard should observe the ant (6:6)

- 6 Go to the ant, you lazy one, Observe its ways and be wise,
- 6 Go to the ant, O sluggard, Observe her ways and be wise,
- 6 Go to the ant, you lazy man! Observe its ways and become wise.
- 6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

(b) Description of the ant's activity (6:7-8)

- 7 Which, having no chief, Officer, or ruler,
- 7 Which, having no chief, Officer or ruler,
- 7 It has no commander, officer, or ruler,
- 7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,
- 8 Prepares its food in the summer *And* gathers its provision in the harvest.
- 8 Prepares her food in the summer *And* gathers her provision in the harvest.
- 8 but prepares its provisions in the summer and gathers its food in the harvest.
- 8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

(c) Consequences of laziness (6:9-11)

- 9 How long will you lie down, you lazy one? When will you arise from your sleep?
- 9 How long will you lie down, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep?
- 9 How long will you lie down, lazy man? When will you get up from your sleep?
- 9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?
- 10 "A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest,"
- 10 "A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest"—
- 10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest,
- 10 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:
- 11 Then your poverty will come in like a drifter, And your need like an armed man.

- 11 Your poverty will come in like a vagabond And your need like an armed man.
- 11 and your poverty will come on you like a bandit and your desperation like an armed man.
- 11 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

(C) Avoid the worthless person (6:12-15)

(a) His character (6:12-14)

- 12 A worthless person, a wicked man, Is one who walks with a perverse mouth,
- 12 A worthless person, a wicked man, Is the one who walks with a perverse mouth,
- 12 A worthless man, a wicked man, goes around with devious speech,
- 12 A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth.
  
- 13 Who winks with his eyes, who signals with his feet, Who points with his fingers;
- 13 Who winks with his eyes, who signals with his feet, Who points with his fingers;
- 13 winking with his eyes, making signs with his feet, pointing with his fingers,
- 13 He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers;
  
- 14 Who, *with* perversion in his heart, continually devises evil, Who spreads strife.
- 14 Who *with* perversity in his heart continually devises evil, Who spreads strife.
- 14 planning evil with a perverse mind, continually stirring up discord.
- 14 Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord.

(b) His consequences (6:15)

- 15 Therefore his disaster will come suddenly; Instantly he will be broken and there will be no healing.
- 15 Therefore his calamity will come suddenly; Instantly he will be broken and there will be no healing.
- 15 Therefore, disaster will overtake him suddenly. He will be broken in an instant, and he will never recover.
- 15 Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy.

(D) Avoid the seven things God hates (6:16-19)

- 16 There are six things that the LORD hates, Seven that are an abomination to Him:
- 16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him:
- 16 Here are six things that the LORD hates— seven, in fact, are detestable to him:
- 16 These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

(a) Pride (6:17a)

(b) Lying tongue (6:17b)

(c) Murder (6:17c)

17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood,

17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood,

17 Arrogant eyes, a lying tongue, and hands shedding innocent blood;

17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

(d) Evil scheming (6:18a)

(e) Participation in evil (6:18b)

18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil,

18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil,

18 a heart crafting evil plans, feet running swiftly to wickedness,

18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

(f) Lying witness (6:19a)

(g) Strife (6:19b)

19 A false witness *who* declares lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers.

19 A false witness *who* utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers.

19 a false witness snorting lies, and someone sowing quarrels between brothers.

19 A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

(10) Lesson 10: Avoid adultery (6:20-35)

(A) Heed parental instruction (6:20-23)

(a) Exhortation (6:20-21)

**20** My son, comply with the commandment of your father, And do not ignore the teaching of your mother;

**20** My son, observe the commandment of your father And do not forsake the teaching of your mother;

20 Keep your father's commands, my son, and never forsake your mother's rules,

20 My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

21 Bind them continually on your heart; Tie them around your neck.

21 Bind them continually on your heart; Tie them around your neck.

21 by binding them to your heart continuously, fastening them around your neck.

21 Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck.

(b) Benefits (6:22-23)

22 When you walk, they will guide you; When you sleep, they will watch over you; And when you awake, they will talk to you.

22 When you walk about, they will guide you; When you sleep, they will watch over you; And when you awake, they will talk to you.

22 During your travels wisdom will lead you; she will watch over you while you rest; and when you are startled from your sleep, she will commune with you.

22 When thou goes, it shall lead thee; when thou sleeps, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakes, it shall talk with thee.

23 For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light; And rebukes for discipline are the way of life

23 For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light; And reproofs for discipline are the way of life

23 Because the command is a lamp and the Law a light, rebukes that discipline are a way of life—

23 For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:

(B) Avoid the adulteress (6:24-35)

(a) Exhortation not to be ensnared by her (6:24-25)

24 To keep you from the evil woman, From the smooth tongue of the foreign woman.

24 To keep you from the evil woman, From the smooth tongue of the adulteress.

24 to protect you from the evil woman, from the words of the seductive woman.

24 To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.

(b) Consequences of adultery (6:25-35)

25 Do not desire her beauty in your heart, Nor let her capture you with her eyelids.

25 Do not desire her beauty in your heart, Nor let her capture you with her eyelids.

25 Do not focus on her beauty in your mind, nor allow her to take you prisoner with her flirting eyes,

25 Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids.

(i) Poverty (6:26)

26 For the price of a prostitute *reduces one* to a loaf of bread, And an adulteress hunts for a precious life.

26 For on account of a harlot *one is reduced* to a loaf of bread, And an adulteress hunts for the precious life.

26 because the price of a whore is a loaf of bread, and an adulterous woman stalks a man's precious life.

26 For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adultress will hunt for the precious life.

(ii) Consequences (6:27-29,33)

27 Can anyone take fire in his lap And his clothes not be burned?

27 Can a man take fire in his bosom And his clothes not be burned?

27 Can a man scoop fire into his bosom without burning his clothes?

27 Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

28 Or can a person walk on hot coals And his feet not be scorched?

28 Or can a man walk on hot coals And his feet not be scorched?

28 Can a man walk on hot coals without scorching his feet?

28 Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?

29 So is the one who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her will not go unpunished.

29 So is the one who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her will not go unpunished.

29 So also is it with someone who has sex with his neighbor's wife; anyone touching her will not remain unpunished.

29 So he that goes in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever touches her shall not be innocent.

(iii) Repayment (6:30-31)

30 *People* do not despise a thief if he steals To satisfy himself when he is hungry;

30 Men do not despise a thief if he steals To satisfy himself when he is hungry;

30 A thief isn't despised if he steals to meet his needs when he is hungry,

30 Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry;

31 But when he is found, he must repay seven times *as much*; He must give up all the property of his house.

31 But when he is found, he must repay sevenfold; He must give all the substance of his house.

31 but when he is discovered, he must restore seven-fold, forfeiting the entire value of his house.

31 But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house.

(iv) Senseless (6:32)

32 One who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; He who would destroy himself commits it.

32 The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; He who would destroy himself does it.

32 Whoever commits adultery with a woman is out of his mind; by doing so he corrupts his own soul.

32 But whoso commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding: he that does it destroys his own soul.

33 He will find wounds and disgrace, And his shame will not be removed.

33 Wounds and disgrace he will find, And his reproach will not be blotted out.

33 He will receive a beating and dishonor, and his shame won't disappear,

33 A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.

(v) Provoking a jealous husband (6:34-35)

34 For jealousy enrages a man, And he will not have compassion on the day of vengeance.

34 For jealousy enrages a man, And he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

34 because jealousy incites a strong man's rage, and he will show no mercy when it's time for revenge.

34 For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

35 He will not accept any settlement, Nor will he be satisfied though you make *it* a large gift.

35 He will not accept any ransom, Nor will he be satisfied though you give many gifts.

35 He will not consider any payment, nor will he be willing to accept it, no matter how large the bribe.

35 He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.