

] Not Washed From Their Filthiness [

Proverbs 29:5 – 30:19

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~ Our Spiritual Safari is a systematic program developed and taught by the Holy Spirit Himself; and spans the entire Word of God – from Genesis to Revelation. We alternate between the Old Testament and New Testament; and with just one more report after this one, we will leave the book of Proverbs to return to the New Testament, where we examine Paul's epistle to the Philippians. The previous several chapters of Proverbs have revealed a great deal about man's hypocrisy. Hypocrisy, most simply defined, is an attempt to be something or someone we aren't. Well, we're not quite finished with the topic of hypocrisy; and there are just as many hypocrites in the church as there are out of the church today!

Many people recognize I am unrelenting in my criticism concerning church members and the state of the modern church. Frankly, I am exceedingly cynical about many professions of faith today; especially around this forum on which I teach. There are multitudes who go around saying they are born again Christians when they are not! They even go as far as being baptized and attending church in an attempt to fool other people into thinking that they are saved – when they are not saved. I would estimate, conservatively, that more than ninety percent of all self-professing believers have never truly submitted themselves to the Lord Jesus Christ as sinners.

If the Spirit of God is speaking to your heart through His Word in these safari reports, then Christ Jesus is opening up a new way for you to go today. There is a life God wants you to live down here; and the only way you can ever know what that life is all about is by learning the Word of God properly, correctly and completely. You would be amazed at how many people have no earthly idea what God's will for their life is. The church is literally filled with preachers, Sunday school teachers, worship and praise leaders, missionaries, people performing outreach, deacons, elders, musicians and lay people who have simply never accepted the Lord Jesus Christ in their hearts. Well, if you are reading this, but have never come to

Christ as your Savior, then you are not saved; because that would be impossible. Won't you turn to Him today? ~

XXIX

5 A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet.

~ There are times when praise and applause for individuals who are doing a good job is appropriate. Naturally, merit should be recognized and is always proper when exemplary work – especially for the Lord – is completed correctly. Flattery, however, is like eating too much honey - as Solomon has already written about; and many people flatter others because they want something from them. The more flattery someone gives you, the bigger the favor they are likely to ask for. When you hear flattery, you will not be hearing the truth of what is in their hearts. Hollywood is particularly good at flattering their ilk. They have award shows where everyone says the nicest things about everyone else - but it is all done in a fit of jealousy and envy. That makes flattery extremely dangerous; because most people will believe their flatterer – which leads them to let their guard down....

6 In the transgression of an evil man there is a snare: but the righteous doth sing and rejoice.

7 The righteous considereth the cause of the poor: but the wicked regardeth not to know it.

8 Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise men turn away wrath.

9 If a wise man contendeth with a foolish man, whether he rage or laugh, there is no rest.

10 The bloodthirsty hate the upright: but the just seek his soul.

~ Most of the people who flatter us secretly harbor murder and hate in their heart. We need to be very careful to pray for discernment when we are being praised, because there are some dangerous people with a hidden

agenda seeking to sift us. Jesus said, *"if you hate your brother then you are guilty of murder."* Cain was guilty of murdering Abel *long* before the physical act was committed. I'm sure resentment built-up between them for many years. If you want to know how far and how fast man can fall, remember God created Adam and Eve perfect in the Garden of Eden. Well, Adam and Eve didn't even get through a half a chapter before the fall. From that time forward, they could only bring forth sons and daughters in their fallen likeness....

11 A fool uttereth all that is in his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards.

12 If a ruler listens to lies, all his servants are wicked.

13 The poor and the deceitful man meet together: the LORD lighteneth both their eyes.

14 The king that faithfully judgeth the poor, his throne shall be established for ever.

15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.

16 When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increaseth: but the righteous shall see their fall.

17 Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.

18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

~ "Vision" means the Spirit of God is working in the life of an individual to give them discernment and understanding of truth in the Word of God. Samuel tells us the Word of the Lord was precious in his day; because there was no open vision in Israel. God raised Samuel up specifically so His people would have a prophet who understood *ALL* of the Scriptures that were in

existence at that time. Remember, Moses said, “.... would God that all the people were the Lord’s prophets.” All of God’s people should have a succinct and compendious command of Holy Writ. Unfortunately, that’s just not the case today. I, personally, feel that spiritual discernment is one of the gifts God has given to the church today, but most church actors just want to grope other people and speak in psycho-babble in some sort of self-commendation of a super-duper sainthood. How tragic this really is....

19 A servant will not be corrected by words: for though he understand he will not answer.

20 Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.

21 He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child shall have him become his son at the length.

22 An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.

23 A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.

24 Whoso is partner with a thief hateth his own soul: he heareth cursing, and bewrayeth it not.

25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.

26 Many seek the ruler's favour; but every man's judgment cometh from the LORD.

27 An unjust man is an abomination to the just: and he that is upright in the way is abomination to the wicked.

~ Our Spiritual Safari is passing over many of these proverbs, because we have examined them previously – and some of them have been considered

several times. If you have not read all thirty-one safari reports thus far in Proverbs, I can only suggest you go back and do so now. This chapter also concludes the proverbs of Solomon that were copied by the men of Hezekiah around two hundred years after they were written; although I believe the last chapter of Proverbs was also written by Solomon himself. God is giving straight and unmistakable warnings here against associating with the unbelieving, evil, and wicked man. We'll all do well to pray for wisdom, judgment and discernment, and then read these Proverbs again; not just once, though – I suggest you read this chapter a half a dozen times – or more....

XXX

1 The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, even the prophecy: the man spake unto Ithiel, even unto Ithiel and Ucal,

2 Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man.

3 I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.

4 Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?

~ Here we have a chapter of Proverbs written by some unknown writer at some unknown time and, as with all proper Hebrew names in the Bible, the names of these men in verse one have been translated as common nouns — because they have a specific meaning, in and of themselves. Literally, this could mean they are the words of a gatherer, the son of the pious; and that could be — although I have to doubt it, personally. Either way, verse four contains the same questions God asked Job. Well, Jesus said, *“no man hath ascended up to Heaven but He that came down from Heaven; even the Son of Man which is in Heaven.”*

Most of you know that I constantly assert the Lord Jesus Christ to be the only Authority on the subject of creation and origin of the universe. Frankly, I do not believe there is a man alive who has the correct explanation of those matters. Science definitely does not have the correct and complete answers. The mere fact that science has invented evolution reveals they are utterly clueless regarding origin. We spend an obscene amount of money to fly around in space today; and the original intent of man being in space was a search for the origin of the universe. I'm not exactly sure what the underlying motivation for man to be in outer space is today; except to say that, because they did not discover anything new about the creation of the earth, man now feels compelled to disprove the Bible is the Word of God, but I digress.

The first chapter of Genesis makes more sense than any theories or philosophies man has ever set forth; and I concur with the Genesis account. God has told us so very little about creation; and the reason is: because it is not important. Man can't even figure out how to live on this planet in this day and age; but we are obsessed with figuring-out what will never be figured-out about what took place some unknown number of years ago. How absurd man really is!

Most safari readers know I hold to the "gap theory;" and you can just call me old fashioned – because that's what I am. Either way, I'm not impressed with the new books by self-proclaimed sharp and clever young men espousing God has let them in on some information that He has not. Irrespective of whether you are an atheistic scientist, or a devout theologian, the only credible answer to the origin of this universe is an emphatic: "... we don't know." If you don't have the answer to where you were when the foundation of the world was laid, then you don't have the answer to any of those other questions, either; because that, too, would simply be impossible....

5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

7 Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:

8 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:

9 Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.

10 Accuse not a servant unto his master, lest he curse thee, and thou be found guilty.

11 There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother.

12 There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.

~ So, our Spiritual Safari concludes this leg of our expedition through the entire Word of God with verse twelve, which encompasses a multitude of people; from unsaved church members to atheists – wealthy business executives to homeless people – some cling to an empty religion, and some don't – but they all feel pure in their own eyes. These are the ones who do not recognize their need for a Savior. They aren't washed; because what that means is to be cleansed by the Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. We must be washed daily with the Word of God! That means Bible study, friends. Most people are spiritually filthy, because they never wash.

If you have not accepted Christ as your Savior, I urge you to do that now; because tomorrow may be too late. In fact, today may be your last tomorrow — and that was yesterday. Don't kid yourself, friends. This isn't playtime in the Spiritual Safari. This world is nothing except one massive graveyard — waiting for you and me. The earth cannot get enough dead people buried in it. Frankly, this life is just one long funeral procession; which began outside the Garden of Eden with Abel, and hasn't stopped since. Well, the ground is going to get your body back one day – and your

spirit will either go to be with the Lord in His light, or it will be eternally separated from Him in outer darkness. That's what's real, my beloved....

13 There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up.

14 There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men.

15 The horseleach hath two daughters, crying, Give, give. There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, four things say not, It is enough:

16 The grave; and the barren womb; the earth that is not filled with water; and the fire that saith not, It is enough.

17 The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

18 There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not:

19 The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid ~

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