

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

## HE THAT WALKETH IN HIS UPRIGHTNESS FEARETH THE LORD

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 3, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING: **PROVERBS 14:1-3**

Proverbs 14:2, He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD; but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.

### 1. BACKGROUND

- a. I have preached from the **Book of Proverbs** on several previous occasions: **Chapter 3** "Let Not Mercy And Truth Forsake Thee" **Chapter 6** "Six Things God Hates Plus One" **Chapter 14** "Righteousness Exalteth A Nation" **Chapter 16** "All The Ways Of Man Are Clean In His Own Eyes" **Chapter 17** "The Eyes Of the Lord Are In The Ends Of The Earth" and **Chapter 31** "Who Can Find A Virtuous Woman."
- b. The **Book of Proverbs** is a book that is classified as poetry in the Scriptures.
- c. **Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes,** and **Song of Solomon** all belong to the same basic package.
- d. The **Book of Proverbs** is a book on wisdom. **James 1:5, If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.**
- e. It is a delightful book and one that should be read very often by believers. I have recommended to the congregation that they read at least one chapter in the **Book of Proverbs** every day.
- f. Solomon is the writer of the **Book of Proverbs**; however, several other authors also contributed.
- g. The date of the writing is between 1000 and 700 B.C.
- h. Solomon succeeded his father David to rule Israel as their King.
- i. Solomon asked God for wisdom. God granted that wisdom and Solomon was known as the wisest man that ever lived (other than Christ). **1 Kings 3:12-14, Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. 13: And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. 14: And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.**
- j. He blessed the people that came from afar to learn; however, he also blessed his own people with his wisdom.
- k. A proverb is a saying that conveys a specific truth in a very pointed way.
- l. Proverbs are short sentences drawn from long experiences.
- m. The key verse found in the **Book of Proverbs** is **Proverbs 1:7, The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction.**
- n. The **Book of Proverbs**, along with other books of the Bible, are inspired by God and are provided for our resource, learning and our spiritual growth. **2 Timothy 3:16-17, All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**
- o. God has put His stamp of approval upon this book as it provides excellent wisdom for mankind.
- p. Some themes in the **Book of Proverbs**:
  1. True wisdom cannot be gained apart from God. **James 1:5, If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.**
  2. God asks us to submit even the most insignificant areas of our life to His Lordship.

3. We should not rely on our human understanding but on the truth of what God's Word teaches us.
4. God will direct our path if we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us.
5. Godly success in life comes from obedience to the Word and ways of God. **1 Samuel 15:22, And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. Joshua 1:8, This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.**
6. God desires His children to be happy, productive and positive. **3 John 1:2, Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.**
7. God made happiness available to us if we will only trust and obey His will. **John 10:10, The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.**
- q. The wise sayings found in the **Book of Proverbs** relate to spiritual truth and good common sense.
- r. The **Book of Proverbs** will touch every area of human life and should be read often by those who are seeking God's wisdom.
- s. There are some great gems in the **Book of Proverbs** and I want to quote a few
  1. **Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach of any people. Proverbs 14:34**
  2. **The curse of the Lord is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the just. Proverbs 3:33**
  3. **A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold. Proverbs 22:1**
  4. **Proverbs 7:1, My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.**
  5. **Proverbs 3:5-10, Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6: In all of thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy path. 7: Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. 8: It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bone. 9: Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase. 10: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.**
  6. **Proverbs 4:23, Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.**
  7. **Proverbs 19:29, Judgments are prepared for scorners and stripes for the back of fools.**
  8. **Proverbs 13:9, The light of the righteous rejoiceth: but the lamp of the wicked shall be put out.**
  9. **Proverbs 20:2, The fear of a King is as the roaring of a lion; whose provoketh him to anger sinneth against his own soul**
- t. With this Background let's proceed into the Word of God today.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- a. The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution.
- b. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson.
- c. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades, Church and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.
- d. With that in mind let us turn our thoughts to the nation. I do believe our military forces have done a marvelous job in protecting this great country, **but America is falling apart from the inside. Hosea 4:1, Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.**
- e. We want to reflect on some things from God's Word today, to include comments on **“Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach of any people.”**
- f. Since we have labeled this as a 4th of July message, I passionately believe we need to calm

ourselves in America. Today there is much division, hate, strive, jealous, wrath and unlovely activities in our great country whom we love dearly.

- g. I can think of no better calming agent than the Preserved Word of God reflected in **1 Thessalonians Chapter 5:11**. I believe this calming effect needs to start with the believer as we wait for the Second Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **1 Thessalonians 5:11, Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.**
- h. With that Introduction, let us see what we can glean from God's precious Word today.

### 3. THREE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

#### a. Every wise woman buildeth her house.

1. **Proverbs 14:1, Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.**
2. As we think about America today; I believe a strong nation starts in the home. Without strong families we will never achieve greatness with respect to our Nation.
3. The aforementioned verse does not limit itself to brick and mortar and the physical building of a home.
4. God ordained three institutions in the beginning: the home, the church and human government.
5. In order to have a strong nation, I believe the foundation must begin in our homes. There is an old saying, "Character begins at home and spreads abroad."
6. No nation can be any stronger than the product that nation produces.
7. America is in serious trouble concerning the product that is being produced in the home. We no longer have the educational structure that allowed us to be referred to as "The Greatest Nation On The Earth." Our disciplines with respect to Science, Math and Technology is lacking in every respect.
8. Let's try to refocus for just a moment on the kind of home that God intends for children to grow up in and the type of people the home should be producing.
9. Notice the Bible says **"Every wise woman buildeth her house:"**
10. There is an old saying: "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." This is truth; however, these words are not found in the Bible.
11. I firmly believe that America has lost sight of God's method because we have focused on material things rather than raising our children with character and Godliness.
12. As we think about that, let's look at a couple of examples from Scripture.
  - a. Sarah was a perfect example of a woman that would build her home.
    1. She was married to Abraham, who is the father of the Israelites.
    2. The entire nation has come forth from Abraham and Sarah.
  - b. Moses' mother, Jochebed, is another example of one who did a fantastic job in the home.
    1. Her history is she was a slave in a foreign land.
    2. When it came to a point that her child was threatened, she hid him, watched over him and finally became his nurse in service to Pharaoh's daughter.
    3. I believe whatever Moses knew about the Lord early on he learned from his wonderful mother.
13. Let's analyze for a moment; **"but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands."**
14. This is what is destroying America today; our young people are not being taught in the home.
15. There are several women in Scripture we can see are an example of this.
  - a. Forty-two-year-old Ahaziah, when he began to reign, reigned one year in Jerusalem.
    1. His mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri.
    2. He walked in the ways of Ahab, for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly.
    3. This is all stated in **2 Chronicles 22:2-3, Forty and two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Athaliah the daughter of Omri. 3: He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly.**
    4. The counsel of his mother brought the house of Ahab very low.
16. We must be very careful to not vent our frustrations with our spouse through the children.
17. The **Proverbs** we are speaking about will work in every single category. Only God's way will prove successful in the end. **Proverbs 22:6, Train up a child in the way he should go: and when**

*he is old, he will not depart from it. Joshua 1:8, This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*

**b. He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD.**

1. Proverbs 14:2, He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD; but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.
2. God is speaking to individuals. We know that God is longsuffering and not willing that any should perish. 2 Peter 3:9, *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.* 1 Timothy 2:4, *Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.*
3. We reject the truth in America today. The Bible says in John 14:6, *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.* 2 Thessalonians 2:10-11, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11: *And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:*
4. We will know the truth and the truth will make us free. John 8:32, *And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*
5. Also in 1 John 2:6, *He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.*
6. Our walk should be in obedience to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Psalms 119:133, *Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.* Psalms 37:23, *The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD; and he delighteth in his way*
8. America debated whether or not to remove "In God We Trust" from our coin and remove God from the pledge of allegiance. I am happy to report that our congressional leaders have reaffirmed "In God We Trust" as the national motto of the U.S., in an effort to encourage its display in public buildings and send a message to those who seek to remove God from the public domain. The resolution required a two-thirds vote to pass, and did so easily, 396 to 9. A step in the right direction. However, we need to go further in obedience to God.
7. Samuel laid this matter before King Saul. 1 Samuel 15:22, *And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.*
8. Obedience to the Lord is very important.
9. America does not want to be obedient to the Lord; we want to do it our way. Proverbs 16:25, *There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.* Proverbs 21:2, *Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.* Activities in America remind me of: Judges 17:6, *In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*
10. Look at the next point to find out what happens when we do it our way.

**c. In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride.**

1. Proverbs 14:3, In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride; but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.
2. King David and Goliath came into a situation where there was a clash.
3. We can read about that in 1 Samuel 17:41-49, *And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him. 42: And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. 43: And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44: And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. 45: Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46: This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may*

- know that there is a God in Israel, 47: And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands. 48: And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49: And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.**
4. Goliath was a boastful, prideful Philistine and He said **"Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field."**
  5. David said this not in a prideful heart but depending on the Lord. **1 Samuel 17:45-47, Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46: This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47: And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.**
  6. America needs to learn to depend on God.
  7. Our mighty weapons will not provide a safe haven for us. **"but the lips of the wise shall preserve them."**
  8. Notice David's answer to this giant. **Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.**
  9. **It is amazing the success that comes when we depend on God and do it His way. Joshua 1:8, This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.**
  10. Would to God that America would turn back to the Preserved Word of God!

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- a. Are you saved my friend?
- b. Do you know Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour?
- c. The Bible says in **Revelation 22:17, And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.**
- d. Then God says in **Matthew 11:28-29, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**
- e. We are to believe the record spoken of in **1 John 5:11-12, because it is the foundation on which any nation is to be built. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12: He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Romans 6:23, For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- f. We thank God for America today and what the veterans have done.
- g. There has been only one plan of salvation from the beginning; Abraham believed God and it was accounted unto him for righteousness. **Romans 4:3, For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Romans 4:22, And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Philippians 4:7, And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**
- h. Would you come to the side of the Living Saviour Today and let Him give you that peace in the heart? Let's reflect on a few verses that will provide you with assurance of your salvation: **2 Peter 1:4, Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. John 10:27-29, My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28: And I give unto them**

***eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29: My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 2 Timothy 1:12, For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Romans 8:38-39, For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39: Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. 1John 5:13, These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.***

- i. Would you please stand?

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