

Pearls from Proverbs



By Michael Pickford

Envy

“Do not let your heart envy sinners, but be zealous for the fear of the Lord all the day.” -Proverbs 23:17

The green eyed monster of envy rears its head when we begin to begrudge the fact that worldly sinners often have nicer houses, better cars, and more success. Don't envy them! Instead, busy yourself in doing the work of the Lord; you'll find a sense of satisfaction and contentment that the rich sinner will never know.

Eternity

“For surely there is a hereafter, and your hope will not be cut off.” -Proverbs 23:18

The rich sinner possesses nice stuff in this world, but earthly treasures will burn up. Don't envy him, just busy yourself with laying up treasures in heaven – eternal treasures (Matthew 6:19-21). Focus on the “Hereafter” where your hope rests; and remember, the ones who are truly blessed are often not the ones who appear to be blessed.

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

EVERYONE WELCOME!



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“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11

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HOPELESS!

Michael Pickford

We sometimes speak of situations, causes, or even people as being “Hopeless.” The Bible even speaks of some who are hopeless. Proverbs speaks of hopelessness in relation to...

WISDOM. *“Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him”* (Proverbs 26:12). One who is wise in his own eyes is overwhelmed with conceit. These have often deceived themselves into believing they are absolutely right, period! They do not entertain the thought that they could be wrong. This is deadly in relation to spiritual things. We are to trust in God rather than our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5-6). Jesus spoke a parable about a Pharisee who was “Full of himself” when he prayed (Luke 18:11). He was so blinded by his own accomplishments that it never occurred to him that he might be wrong – lost! (Consider Matthew 7:21-23). *“Do not be wise in your own opinion”* (Romans 12:16). *“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up”* (James 4:10).

WORDS. *“Do you see a man hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him.”* (Proverbs 29:20). A man who speaks without thinking

Often finds himself in tough situations with their fellow man and dangerous situations with God. Slow thinking coupled with a quick tongue has often led to gossip, slander, prejudicial statements, et al. All of which God condemns (Romans 1:29-30; 1 Timothy 5:21). Don't make judgments before getting the facts! *“A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion”* (Proverbs 18:2-ESV). A man should be swift to hear and slow to speak (James 1:19). The most dangerous realm of hasty speech is in that of handling God's word. Before preaching something, make sure you've studied it thoroughly. Before teaching someone the word, make sure you understand what you're sharing!

WICKEDNESS. *“The hope of the righteous will be gladness, But the expectation of the wicked will perish”* (Proverbs 10:28). It often seems that wicked people have success in this life. They sometimes have the biggest houses, the nicest cars, and the most beautiful families. But their wickedness and disobedience will ultimately rob them of all these things; if not on earth, in eternity. Unless they repent and obey, they have no hope for the hereafter (Proverbs 11:7; 23:17-18). 🔍

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RELIGIOUS TITLES

Jesse Flowers

Speaking of the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus said of them, *“They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi.’ But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ. But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted”* (Matthew 23:6-12).

There have always been religious men and women that seek special recognition among the general population. They desire the spotlight. They feed off the praise and admiration of fellow colleagues and denominational members. They long for special attention, and exaltation. One way of acquiring such a position, is by wearing religious titles that are not authorized in the Word of God (I Corinthians 4:6).

Some take the title of “Reverend,” such as the “Reverend” Jesse Jackson. Where in the Scriptures do we find this descriptive term? We find it in Psalm 111:9. *“He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his*

covenant forever: holy and reverend is his name.” The only time this “title” is used in the Bible, it is used to describe the greatness of God’s name! Where is the Bible authority then for Jesse Jackson, or any other man/woman, to take for themselves such a title? There is no Bible authority, therefore it is wrong. Do not call anyone on earth reverend.

There are men in the denominational world that have assumed the religious title “father.” Grant it, we all have “human fathers” (Hebrews 12:9), but that’s not what is under consideration in Matthew 23. Jesus forbids any of His faithful followers to give any man the title of “father” in a spiritual way. Only One Being is our Father in that sense, and that is Jehovah. It is contrary to the very teachings of Christ to call some man “father.” So why do some do so? Do not call anyone on earth father.

I am NOT a “reverend” or a “father” or even “pastor.” I simply strive to be a minister of Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 3:5), an evangelist (2 Timothy 4:5) and preacher of the gospel (Romans 10:14). These are not “religious titles” but merely descriptive of the work that I do. Let us not seek after the titles and praise of men. Let us rather seek to praise God in all things that we do by respecting and obeying His Word (I Peter 4:11; Colossians 3:17). -

"Resist the devil"

-James 4:7

SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

What Hope Does

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by.....Glenn Isbell
Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-5
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Sam Miller
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Lynn Buttrey
Serve.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Ben Reagh

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Invitation.....Lynn Buttrey

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Invitation.....Kenny Johnson

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!