

Proverbs 25:1-7 ▫ "How to Live Like a King"

- 1 These also are proverbs of Solomon
which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied:
- 2 It is the glory of God to conceal a matter,
But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.
- 3 As the heavens for height and the earth for depth,
So the heart of kings is unsearchable.
- 4 Take away the dross from silver,
And it will go to the silversmith for jewelry.
- 5 Take away the wicked from before the king,
And his throne will be established in righteousness.
- 6 Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king,
And do not stand in the place of the great;
- 7 For it is better that he say to you,
"Come up here,"
Than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince,
Whom your eyes have seen.

Pastor teaches his family a selection from "the Proverb of the day." In these seven verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that true nobility is to live by wisdom from the Lord and surround oneself with those who are wise.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Proverbs 25 verses 1 through 7. These are God's words. These also are Proverbs of Solomon which the men of Hezekiah, King of Judah, copied. It is the glory of God to conceal a matter. But the glory of Kings is to search out. A matter. As the heavens for height and the Earth for depth.

So the heart of Kings is unsearchable. Take away the dross from Silver and it will go to the silversmith for jewelry. Take away the wicked from before the king. And his throne will be established in righteousness. Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king. And do not stand in the place of the Great.

For it is better that he should say to you come up here. And that you should be put lower. In the presence of the prince. Him, your eyes have seen. Amen, that sends us reading of gods, inspired and inerrant word. The first verse alerts us. Two are coming into a new section of the book of Proverbs.

There are several of these As far as Maine or larger sections, go. You know, this is probably the third large section of the Book of Proverbs.

The first verse indicates that it was during the Revival. under Hezekiah The king of Judah that these particular ones. were collected and copied perhaps. Recovered.

In the first section, the seven verses that are before us. This evening, especially For kings and Kings to be it reminds us. That Proverbs as a whole, of course, is wisdom for All of humanity and particularly God's people as all scriptures, especially for God's people. but in the second place it More, particularly aimed at young men.

even above Believers generally. And not just young men, but especially Young men who are being prepared. For Authority. Either among God's people or especially, Among a nation that is made up of God's people, it's a civil magistrates are Kings. In training. And verse 2 takes, whether it's the king in training or a young man.

more generally or A Believer. More generally. right back to the source of all wisdom. And that is God is the one who has created all things. He is infinite Eternal and unchangeable. In his wisdom. In his knowledge. And so it is the glory of God to conceal a matter or to conceal a word.

very literally although the Hebrew word for word is very broad sometimes, it can refer to an action But it's fundamental, meaning is. This is it is the glory of God to conceal a matter. In other words, God's knowledge. His wisdom is infinite. He knows himself and he knows everything that is.

directly and immediately. Not by way of observation or learning. He has knowledge and wisdom inherent to himself. He's not like us as creatures. The things that we can know. We can know because God has chosen. How much to make available to us how much to reveal? And so there's the glory of God to conceal.

Everything else. From us to reserve. The rest of his infinite knowledge. Unto himself. Now, to the extent to, which God enables us, To learn to receive instruction. to have resources to have abilities. There is an obligation that we have. to discover to learn to gain knowledge. Of God's world and especially of God's word.

And so he says here, the glory of a king is not to expand its borders. The glory of the king here is not to multiply his military. The glory of a king is not to fill his treasury. The glory of the king. In this case, the great thing that he can do with all of the resources and ability and the power.

that he gets is To increase the knowledge of God. by himself. And by his subjects in his realm, That the the state and especially now that The church is not its self-estate. The. great Duty is the protection and the prospering the help of the church so that God may be known in the nation.

And the ruling by the moral law of God in the nation. It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of Kings is to search out The matter. So, whatever the Lord. Has not concealed, but has permitted as revealed. the king should make it his priority.

Independence upon God seek out the knowledge of God. Another way of saying this would be the chief end of Kings. Is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever. Or the chief end of a king is To facilitate the Nations glorifying God. And enjoying. Forever. Now, this is a great obligation that is Laid upon the king.

Those whom God sets in authority, over us are often. dealing with more than we could. Possibly anticipate or understand. We are not in the place of a king. this is also true with our neighbors. This is true even often with your brothers and sisters in your own home.

You don't know what's going on in their heart and in their mind. And so we shouldn't jump to conclusions or be overly critical or judgmental. About one another in the home or others in the church or others in the world we just don't know. And it's quite possible.

That. Verse 3 is still thinking of the subject in the way that verse 2 described. That the king doesn't even know his own heart. This is what the Lord says through Jeremiah, the heart is deceitful above all things and tracked over. Above all things, there are so many intricate and competing and complex.

Motivations and emotions going on in the heart at any one time. That we shouldn't even presume to think that we know ourselves. Well, with respect to a king with respect to those over us. It is very easy. To become judgmental of them. This was true when there was just two people.

And the one who was over them was the Living God. And part of, Satan's tempting Eve was using her. two coaxed Adam into being judgmental of God. And so, We must watch against. That inclination of our heart, how easily? We become judgmental. Of those who are over us.

this is true, of course in the church as well. It's true with children or their parents, a wife with her husband. And so forth. And even for those who are not over, you remember, we don't even know our own heart, do not presume to know the heart.

Of someone else. And so as the height of heavens for height and the Earth for depth so the heart of Kings is unsearchable. Now, the King has an obligation. To observe since he, you cannot know the heart, he needs to observe the conduct and draw some conclusions from that. Because the king's rule, a King's Authority can be fouled up.

By just one wicked or unreliable, man. among his advisors This is true for Kings. Generally speaking, the most important thing that they do is Select the men with whom, they are going to surround themselves. That's probably second to selecting the woman to whom they're going to join themselves.

Solomon. Sadly knew the truth of that too late. Well, he probably knew it early as well, but he had suppressed that truth and ended up. Transgressing. A thousand times.

But it is. One of the most important things that someone in Authority does. Is selecting those with whom he's going to surround himself, you have to take away the dross from the silver, for it to be fit for jewelry, and you have to take away all of the wicked.

You don't leave some dross in the silver and make jewelry out of Impure. Mottled, silver. and you should take away all of the wicked from among the counselors. The Kings should take all of the wicked from among his counselors. And you. should seek that. There would be none.

Wicked. Among those. Who are your confidants with whom you share your Joys and your griefs to whom you look for counsel. Those who are your companions in life and most of all for you like you're saying earlier for the king even more important than who the counselors of the court are going to be that he would have a queen who is Godly.

Above all else. The most important decision you are going to make in this world. yes, whom you are going to marry And, You must not settle. When it comes to the godliness or the character, Of the person that you're going to marry. It's actually fine to settle. In many other areas.

There is no one so perfect. But that if you are looking for someone, That. Perfect. You are consigned to be single. and if everyone else was looking for someone that was perfect, you couldn't get married. But one place, you must not settle. Is uprightness of character. At your house may be established another thing that we shouldn't assume.

Whether it's in the case of the one who is being prepared for future kingship here and he's being given advice, do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king and do not stand in the place of the Great. And this is connected to verses four and five saying, don't assume that you're the righteous one.

The king is looking for Part of your righteousness, ought to be the humility. to take a low post and serve well and be Godly and work hard. And if the King finds pleasure in you, and if you are the righteous one that he is looking for for a higher post, let him select you.

Much worse. If you are in the place and he's trying to weed out the dross from among the quote, unquote silver of his cabinet of his counselors and he looks at you and he looks at someone who's beneath you. And he looks back at you and he looks at them and he thinks Other guys, the silver and this one's the dross.

How'd they get up here? And then you would have seen the king whom your eyes have seen. says verse 7 and have to be put lower. In his presence. generally speaking. when we know that what is really needed is. Good men. Upright, men, we should seek to be good and we should seek to be upright but we should not assume that we are.

The man that is needed. We should seek. Appropriate ways. By which God gives such a calling. In this case, the king's counselor is selected by the king. but by the appropriate ways, by which the Lord gives such a calling We should seek that, that which God's grace has produced in.

would be put to good. Use in whatever place he is willing to give us remember the words of the Lord Jesus. He who is last will be first, and the first will be last. So, Don't exalt yourself. Don't put yourself in high position. Seek instead. Before God. To learn from him.

Whatever he has not concealed and what he has revealed to gain wisdom, to gain the knowledge of God, to gain the knowledge of his world. So that you may serve well in the world that he made and in which he has placed you. And, Let him. By good order and Providence, bring you into The place where you are needed to serve.

Amen, let's pray. Our gracious God in our heavenly father, we thank you. for this portion of your word. We thank you for your son. Who is The King of Kings and is perfect in his righteousness, who needs no counselors but is pleased. To make us righteous. And to grow us in Conformity to him that we may be his servants.

Give us Lord a hunger and thirst for knowledge. Make us to see how glorious it has, been of you to make us able to know things. And give us pleasure in discovering the things. That you Have revealed and make available to us. And give us. We pray wisdom in choosing, those who will be companions for us, grant that in our household.

We would all be Godly. That we might be good and helpful companions. To one another. So blessed to us, this portion of your word, right, that your spirit would continue. Writing it on our hearts We ask through Christ, amen.