

Proverbs 22:1–4 (Family Worship lesson in “the Proverb of the day”)

“The Long Term Value of a Good Name with God”

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- 1 A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
Loving favor rather than silver and gold.
- 2 The rich and the poor have this in common,
The LORD is the maker of them all.
- 3 A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself,
But the simple pass on and are punished.
- 4 By humility and the fear of the LORD
Are riches and honor and life.

Pastor leads his family in a verse from “the Proverb of the day.” In these four verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that we should take the long view of things, both within this life, but especially with respect to eternity.

(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 referenced above)

Proverbs 22 verses 1 through 4. These are God's words. A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches loving favor, rather than silver and gold, the rich, and the poor have this in common. Yahweh is the maker of the mole, a prudent man foresees evil and hide himself.

But the simple pass on under punished. By humility and fear of Yahweh are riches and honor and life.

So far the reading of God's words,

One of the aspects of our fallen nature. One of the aspects of our folly. That is most dangerous. Is short-sightedness. Ultimately, that's what unbelief boils down to and not repenting of our sin and trusting in Jesus. It's short-sightedness. If you're thinking about eternity you're thinking about how short this life is and how light and momentary both the pleasures or the trials of this life really are.

Then the most important thing by an unimaginable margin is to trust in Christ and belonged in because of how waiting and everlasting eternity is

And this is something that shows up not just an eternal things, but it also shows up in our own life. We, we want shortcuts. We want easy money, quick money. Think just give me the silver and gold what happens and tough times. When all the money gets spent, there are things that are more important than silver and gold, and most important is to belong to the Lord.

But another one that is more important is a good name. A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches and loving favor, rather than silver and gold. And you notice that there's nothing wrong with riches and silver and gold. By the time we get to the end of verse 4 which is the reason I took a moment to look at how far we would go, you see by humility and fear of Yahweh are riches and honor and life.

So humility in the fear of Yahweh, give you both the honor and the richest which is aren't bad. Then are they? There are many who think that the money is bad but it's the love of money. That is bad. Just like there are many. You think that alcohol is bad, but it's allowing it to become a mocker or a brawler.

It's the drunkenness or the disproportionate top spending of your self on it or delight in it. That's bad with a good name. You can reacquire riches or silver and gold if necessary but they're not even necessary in this life. Now it's important that you know that a good name is something that you may have with some but not with others.

Remember the world despises Christ and those who belong to him. There are many who read and think about verse like this. And they say, oh well, see we need to either in the church or in our friendships or whatever. We need to work hard and make sure people like us.

Well, it's the first thing you're working hard on, is to love the Lord Jesus and belong to them walk with him. Well there's no amount of anything good that you can do to make certain people like you. That's why it's important to come right into verse 2 and see the rich and the poor have this in common.

You always the make of them all. So not only is he the one who assigns to us riches or poverty according to his wisdom. And through the means that he's appointed often, it's our own fault. If we have failed to be diligent, if we have spent foolishly and yet, you might be diligent and a good steward and still have little or nothing.

But in that case, it's the Lord who gave that to you and more important than the silver or the gold, or the riches in this life, is having a good name with the Lord. Now, having a good name of the Lord, there's only one ultimate way for that and that's three faith in Christ.

That's to have Christ's name upon you. Jesus is the one who was willing to be made poor to humble themselves. Take the form of a slave found in appearance as a man. All the way to death and that on the cross. And for this reason, God has highly exalted so that the name of Jesus every knee will bound every tongue.

Confess, the he is king of games and Florida floors to the glory of God, the Father. And so Jesus is the greatest example of this. The one who's willing to be poor in order to have a good name from God, in order to do whatever is given to us by God to do.

So you need to be willing to be poor that you might serve the Lord and do whatever he gives you to do. But most of all you need Jesus, you need to belong to God through Christ so that his name is on you. Now, if you know that a reputation is very valuable, then you will be willing to guard your name and give things up and order to maintain that good reputation not to do wickedly because a good name with God is most important.

But give things up, there are many things that you should be willing to part with One of the best ways to have a good name. Is to be generous just be self-sacrificial with others. Just like the Lord Jesus made himself poor so that we could be rich in him a prudent man foresees.

Evil and hides himself again. What's the greatest evil to end up in hell, right? So this has that primary eternal aspect to it, but this is also true in our lives. So we ought to be people who plan, people who are instructed by the Bible. So we know what evil is and who understand the and try to identify according to what scripture describes as dangerous, particularly to our eternal souls, what situations are things.

People are going to be dangerous book of proverbs. One of the most dangerous things in my dear sons is the loose woman. The seductive woman, the one who's dressed or behavior tries to draw attention to herself. The one who tries to is who suggests either with her words or with her actions that you can have some of the enjoyments that really only belong to marriage, without marriage, just have them with her who makes you feel special because of secrecy with her and draws you in to have just a special relationship with her that nobody else can have.

And that's secrecy is very dangerous. You should foresee evil and hide yourself when the Lord warns about something that is deceptive or seductive. It means that there is a great danger here, that you need to hide yourself from. And that many will have destroyed themselves on it because they didn't think it was so dangerous to them.

They thought a little bit of it was okay. And since we're talking about what all is very dangerous and there's only a little bit of it. How about a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the ends, to rest and poverty comes on the upon you like an armed robber.

So the prudent man foresees evil and hides himself. He learns to take the warnings of scripture and he runs the other direction he hides himself from it. But the simple, the foolish pass on and are punished. They see it and either they don't think it's a big deal or they think they can handle it, or for whatever are the reason they don't live.

According to the wisdom that God has given them just file it away in their heads. Keep going same direction and what happens. Verse three. They're punished by humility and the fear of Yahweh a richest and honor and life. First and foremost, by Christ's humility. But also we too, humble ourselves to turn from ourselves to the Lord to trust in him and to belong to him and the riches and honor and life here, may be in this life.

There have been societies in which the gospel has penetrated. Or there have been times in which God just in his providence has granted to those who are Godly to have riches and honor and this world and even long life. But there have also been times where the godly were very poor and the godly were despised by all or when the godly were much afflicted with disease or injury and past quickly from this life.

But the godly have riches and honor and life. Eternal, remember how lightning and momentary. This life is by compared, by comparison to eternity and clean to the Lord. Don't try to make yourself. Great make yourself low. Serve him. Love him. Serve others, he will lift you up and do time.

It's bright our father, we pray that you would deliver us from the short citedness that wants to have

stuff. Now, that wants to exalt ourselves. Now, that doesn't take the warnings of your words. Seriously give us. We pray that long-term wisdom, that considers eternity. That brings to Christ that remembers that we belong ultimately to you.

Whether we are rich or whether we are poor that trusts in you and seeks to have a good name with you through Jesus. So, give us a eternal perspective. We pray and grant that we would live day by day. According to that. Wisdom, that views things in light of eternity.

We ask in Christ's name, Amen.