Provisions for the Worn Out: Part 6b

November 22, 2020

Discussion Question: How have you found wisdom at your difficult crossroads?

Daniel 7:25 "And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High..." [KJV]

REVIEW: Last week we looked at Provision for Quadrivium

Quadrivium – It is used in liberal arts education consisting of four subjects (arithmetic, geometry, music & astronomy) Imply the meeting of four ways. A Latin word for a crossroad, literally a place where four roads meet.

TODAY:

We are in that struggle as America steamrolls to a Socialist State. It has been headed in that direction for at least 100 years. **Why can I say that?** Let me walk us through 100 years of crossroads for our nation:

- Slaves were declared free in 1863, but then in late 1870's Jim Crow Laws were instituted
- 1920's Evolution.
- 1930's welfare system that now discourages people from
- 1948 outlawed a time for school prayer (no longer could happen over the intercom)
- 1950's known as Happy Days to some but the Civil Rights struggle in full force in 1955.
- 1960's free love and illicit drugs; hate for our military that we sent to fight in Vietnam and a continued struggle with segregation.
- 1962 declared prayer in school was unconstitutional.
- 1963 stopped Bible Reading in classes.
- 1960's in California no fault divorce.
- In 1973 the right to abort
- 1970's pornography considered free speech.
- 1980's posting the 10 Commandments in a school classroom violated the Constitution.
- 1990's Physician Assisted Suicide and now in 6 states it is legal.
- 1990's removing Christmas from the public square & demanding that crosses be removed in National Parks.
- 2010 Affordable Health Care Act demanding that faith-based institutions cover abortions. Little Sisters of the Poor threatened with millions of dollars in fines.
- 2015 Supreme Court demanded that all states recognize same sex marriage
- The problem was sexual immorality was already allowed in the church. (Fornication, adultery)
- Magistrates must violate their religious convictions and perform same sex marriages at courthouses or lose their jobs.
- 2016 told to allow men & women in the same bathroom, dressing rooms and showers.
- In 2020 pastors have been arrested for holding worship services d.

God keeps bringing us to a crossroad and we keep choosing the broad road and telling HIM that HIS way of living is not the best. A great question to ask, could be, why does God lead us to crossroads? Why put us in the position where satan makes the quadrivium a quandary? A choice is one of God's greatest gifts. Shows HIS love for us.

A. Proclamation to Wisdom

Proverbs 8:1-3 "Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? 2 On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; 3 beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:" [ESV]

1. Words of Wisdom (vs. 6-9)

The Words of Wisdom can be trusted.

- o Excellent is a word describing the commander of an occupying front.
- Right can imply straight but also direct and correct
- True opposed to deception and the crooked way
- o Righteous justice
- Plain spoken clearly so there is no confusion

When we come to the crossroad in our life, wisdom calls out to us... not as a spectator watching to see if we will make the wrong decision and then condemn us; Rather wisdom is there calling out like a commander that is overseeing the victorious force. Wisdom is giving insight that is right, true, righteous, and plain spoken to those who will listen.

2. Wealth of Wisdom (vs. 10 – 21)

Here you find the enrichment of wisdom but it is not dealing with material wealth. Material wealth may be a by-product at times but not the focus. Wisdom calls out to us to receive eternal wealth instead of gold, silver and precious stones.

Note vs. 12... the offer is prudence and the knowledge of <u>witty inventions...</u> It implies "to find out sagacious plans" – that is having or showing keen discernment, sound judgment and farsightedness.

Literally this is wisdom to order our affairs and the course of our life with cautious common sense in harmony with the Word of God.

Proverbs 8:13 "I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me." [KJV]

Not just early in the day; but early in life and early in the process.

3. Works of Wisdom (vs. 22 – 31)

Wisdom was with God before creation. The works of creation is evidence of the incredible wisdom of God. The precision of the universe. The elaborateness of the human body. The beauty of the seasons. The trade winds, jet streams and sea currents impacting agricultural cycles. Life cycle of plants that produce our oxygen

1 Cor 1:28-31 "God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. 30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 31 Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." [ESV]