

- I) **V1-2 INTRO: As snow in summer and rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool**  
This chapter deals with various kinds of personal relationships  
It is broken into three parts: Relationships with the foolish, the lazy and gossips
- II) **THE WRITER: Warns his readers about these kinds of people**  
In doing so, he intends using them as examples of lives that are not glorifying to God
- III) **The fool, the lazy and the slanderer are used, as warnings, for the one God will bless**
- IV) **A fool is stupid, arrogant, simple, arrogant, senseless, and despises wisdom**  
**THE SLOTHFUL: Is idle, feeble, slack, lazy, sluggish, or a sluggard**  
**A TALEBEARER: Is a slanderer, informer, gossip, backbiter, murmurer or a whisperer**
- V) **LET'S BEGIN: By looking at warnings concerning fellowship with those who are fools**
- VI) **V1 AS: Snow in summer and rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool.**
- VII) **Snow in summer and rain in harvest are not normal and therefore are inappropriate**  
Even so, a foolish person is not worthy of high praise
- VIII) **This is the kind of person popular culture has a tendency of honoring**  
**HIS POINT: He warns against elevating to a position of prominence and exalting as a model those who are not worthy: In doing so, everything would be topsy-turvy**
- IX) **We honor God, our parents, the virtuous, and those in authority who have earned it**  
We are even to honor our fellow believers  
**Ro 12:10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, *in honor giving preference to one another***
- X) **We honor those who are actually worthy of honor**  
Honor is something that is deserved, and something that has been earned
- XI) **We can also give honor to positions of authority when those holding it do not deserve it**  
**1 Pe 2:17 Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.**  
**Ro 13:7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.**
- XII) **SADLY: Honor in our society is often given to those who have not earned nor deserve it**  
It is given to spoiled athletes, ungodly actors, TV hosts and profane musicians  
Reserve your honor for those who truly deserve it  
Pray for the nation that continually gives it to the wrong people

- I) V2 Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a curse without cause shall not alight  
An undeserved curse is ineffective:  
Flying swallows, flitting sparrows do not reach their destination
- II) This is a correction of superstition  
In our context, believers have no need of fear of curses
- III) The prophet for hire Balaam could not curse what God had blessed  
Nu 23:8 How can I curse those whom God has not cursed? How can I denounce those whom the LORD has not denounced?  
Ps 109:26-28 Help me O Lord my God; save me in accordance with your love. Let them know that it is your hand that you O Lord have done it. They may curse but you will bless *when they attack* they will be put to shame, but your servant will rejoice. My accusers will be clothed with disgrace and wrapped in shame as in a cloak
- IV) V3 A WHIP: For the horse, a bridle for the donkey and a rod for the fool's back
- V) A horse, donkey and a fool will not respond to reason  
POINT: Fool's have to be directed, sometimes even by physical force  
Pr 10:13 Wisdom is found on the lips of the discerning but a rod is for the back of him who lacks judgment
- VI) V4-5 Do not answer a fool according to his folly lest you also be like him. Answer a fool
- VII) These proverbs represent two sides of the same coin
- VIII) FIRST: Do not descend to a fool's level of thought  
V4 Do not act like a fool yourself or you will be foolish  
V5 When you answer them, carefully consider what they are saying as you respond
- IX) Sometimes we ignore foolish questions and ignorant disputes, as this a wise course  
We should not descend to the level of the people we are disputing with
- X) Take the high road; do not allow yourself to be goaded into acting foolishly, stupidly  
2 Ti 2:23-24 Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful
- XI) Sometimes it is necessary to respond, so carefully listen, wisely choose your words  
Caesar, Resurrection-7 brothers (Mt 22), Moses said such should be stoned (Jn 8)
- I) V6 He who sends a message by the hand of a fool cuts off his own feet and drinks

**Sending a fool on a mission is only inviting trouble**

- II) **V7 Like the legs of the lame that hang limp is a proverb in the mouth of fools  
As legs to the crippled are useless, wisdom to the fool is also useless**
- III) **This is because wisdom does not direct his steps  
Ps 119:133 Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me  
Eccl 5:1 Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong**
- IV) **V8 LIKE ONE: Who binds a stone in a sling is he who gives honor to a fool  
To honor a fool doesn't make sense but we still give them awards and platforms**
- V) **V9 Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard is a proverb in the mouth of fools  
It is painful to hear the foolish quote scripture  
Do you ever feel uncomfortable when you hear an ungodly person twist scripture?**
- VI) **V10 The great God Who formed all things gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his  
They ultimately reap the results of what they have sown  
Ro 2:6 God "will render to each one according to his deeds":**
- VII) **V11 AS A DOG: Returns to his own vomit so a fool repeats his folly  
A fool refuses to learn and will return to disgusting behavior, even when warned  
Peter quoted this proverb as a warning against returning to a life a sin (2 Pe 2:22)**
- VIII) **V12 DO YOU: See a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him  
A person who thinks they are wise is almost impossible to help: they do not listen  
1 Co 3:19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He catches the wise in their own craftiness**
- IX) **V13-16 The slothful man says There is a lion in the road! A fierce lion is in the streets!  
The lazy will use any excuse to get out of work**
- X) **Sadly, he doesn't think he is lazy, which makes it even harder to motivate him (or her)  
They don't like getting out of bed: like a door they move but go nowhere  
When confronted, they have good reasons for their laziness**
- XI) **V17 He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own is like on who takes a dog by  
If you interfere in another person's quarrel, you are looking for trouble**

- Don't complain when you get hurt
- I) V18-19 Like a madman who throws firebrands arrows and death is the man who deceives  
Deceive: To deal treacherously with; to mock, mislead or to trick  
POINT: The only humor that is acceptable is when one laughs *with*, and not *at* others
  - II) V20-22 Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where there is no talebearer strife  
You restrict fights by not supplying fuel (gossip, whispering)
  - III) Some people seem to like to tell other people things that may have been said about them  
They think that it is doing someone good, but in fact is sowing seeds of anger
  - IV) It is easy to find someone who likes hearing the gossip, and devours every word
  - V) V23 FERVENT LIPS: With a wicked heart are like earthenware covered with silver dross  
Fervent lips is a picture of someone who is pretending to have deep affection  
Silver dross is an oxide of lead used to put a glaze on pottery: it is not valuable
  - VI) This is a good picture of Judas when he kissed Jesus  
Pr 10:18 Whoever hides hatred *has* lying lips, And whoever spreads slander *is* a fool.
  - VII) V24-26 HE WHO: Hates disguises it with his lips, and lays up deceit within himself  
Hypocritical words often hide an evil heart  
Though he flatters, his heart is evil towards you, and has many things planned to do
  - VIII) Concealed malice eventually is exposed, as righteousness will triumph over evil  
Like Haman (Esther, Mordecai)
  - IX) V27 Whoever digs a pit will fall into it and he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on  
Ultimately, you will reap what you sow  
Remember Daniel: Prayed, sent to Lion's Den: Ultimately those who plotted his death were devoured
  - X) V28 A lying tongue hates those who are crushed by it and a flattering mouth works ruin  
Only pain and ruin comes from a lying, flattering person  
REMEMBER: You are neither as good or as bad as people say you are