

- I) **V1-5 INTRO: He who is often reprov'd, and hardens his neck, will suddenly be destroyed**
HARDENS: Speaks of refusing to wear the easy yoke
DESTROYED: Shattered, like a potter's vessel that cannot be mended
- II) **A person who is corrected often yet obstinately refuses to listen will be incurably broken**
- III) **There are those who are corrected who simply refuse to listen to the correction**
They are not willing to listen, or to change
Pr 15:12 A scoffer does not love one who corrects him, Nor will he go to the wise.
- IV) **This was true in the history of israel**
Jer 35:15 I have also sent to you all My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, 'Turn now everyone from his evil way, amend your doings, and do not go after other gods to serve them; then you will dwell in the land which I have given you and your fathers.' But you have not inclined your ear, nor obeyed Me.
- V) **Ultimately, If you persist in sin even when corrected, you will reap its consequences**
- VI) **There have been times that I have given scripture, only to be told they already know it**
How many times do you have to hear the same thing, until you repent?
- VII) **V2 When the righteous are in authority the people rejoice but when a wicked man rules**
People enjoy life when good people rule, but always suffer under wicked rulers
- VIII) **V3 Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice, but a companion of harlots wastes**
A foolish son fails to bring joy and prosperity to his family by squandering his money
This reminds me of the prodigal son: he repented and brought joy to his dad
- IX) **It breaks a father's heart to see his son brought to poverty because of sin**
Pr 23:24 The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, and he who begets a wise child will delight in him
- X) **V4 The king establishes the land by justice but he who receives bribes overthrows it**
This contrasts a righteous king bringing security with one bringing disruption
One champions justice, the other allows money to motivate their decisions
Pr 17:23 A wicked man accepts a bribe behind the back to pervert the ways of justice
- XI) **V5 A MAN: Who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet**
Flattery is often used to capture a person by appealing to their vanity

Instead of honestly correcting, they simply say what others want to hear

- I) This technique was used on Jesus in an attempt to entrap Him
Lu 20:20-22 So they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might seize on His words, in order to deliver Him to the power and the authority of the governor. Then they asked Him, saying, "Teacher, we know that You say and teach rightly, and You do not show personal favoritism, but teach the way of God in truth: "Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

- II) V6 By transgression an evil man is snared, but the righteous sings and rejoices
Your sin ultimately will keep you captive: In bondage
Pr 5:22 His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, and he is caught in the cords of his sin.

- III) V6b The righteous sings and rejoices because they have been set free from bondage
Jn 8:34-36 Jesus answered them, Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.
Ro 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

- IV) V7 The righteous considers the cause of the poor, but the wicked does not understand

- V) Interestingly: Only the righteous truly champion the cause of the poor
The wicked may have concern but don't understand what truly will help the poor
Their compassion is not founded on genuine concern for the entire person

- VI) They want them to eat, drink, be clothed, housed, educated, medicated
But often this is not from genuine concern for them, but to make them indebted

- VII) True generosity takes into consideration the entire person, including the spiritual
It is not done with the aim of making someone indebted, but freed
The motives are pure and are from a true concern for the person being helped

- VIII) V8 Scoffers ensnare (enflame the mind) a city but wise men turn away wrath
Scoffers (mockers) laugh at moral obligations and stir up the evil desires of people
They organize marches against hate, while hating those they are protesting

- IX) The wise on the other hand encourage peace in a society
Ac 19 Demetrius the silversmith incited a riot against Paul
The city was enflamed, and a riot was about to occur over it

The city clerk had to step in and calm the city down

- I) V9 If a wise man contends with a foolish man, whether the fool rages or laughs, there is
It is a waste of your time trying to rationally argue with a fool
2 Ti 2:23-24 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.
And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient
- II) V10 The bloodthirsty hate the blameless but the just seek his well-being
Righteous people attempt to care for other righteous people
The early church cared for the poor, the widows, and the orphans in the church
- III) V11 A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back
Wisdom is demonstrated by self-control:
- IV) Even when angry, a wise person chooses words carefully
Pr 15:28 The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, but the mouth of the
wicked pours forth evil.
Pr 17:27 He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding is of a
calm spirit
- V) V12 If a ruler pays attention to lies all his servants become wicked
FIRST: People can lie about his servants, and it can make him distrust them
SECOND: If he is given to flattery, his servants will lie to him to satisfy his desire
THIRD: They become wicked because they will follow his lead
- VI) V13 The poor man and the oppressor have this in common; the Lord gives light to the
The Lord giving light is another way of saying that the Lord gives them their lives
- VII) They both have been given life, and they both stand before the one who gave life
2 Ti 4:1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge
the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:
1 Pe 4:5 They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the
dead.
- VIII) V14 The king who judges the poor with truth, his throne will be established forever
Moral character determines the length of rulership
- IX) This is why the Kingdom of God will go on forever
Rev 11:15 And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world
have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever

- X) V15 The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his m
This speaks of a mother's interest, concern and involvement in her child's life
If she ignores his need for correction, she produces a child that is an embarrassment
- I) V16 When the wicked are multiplied transgression increases; but the righteous will see
- II) When evil men thrive, so does wickedness: It spreads like cancer
It usually comes through ideas that are embraced, popularized and evangelized:
- III) In the end, they die along with their ideas but God's truth ultimately is vindicated
Rev 15:4 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested."
- IV) V17 Correct your son and he will give you rest; yes he will give delight to your soul
Disciplined children are a joy to their parents
It makes eating in restaurants more pleasant!
- V) V18 Where there is no revelation the people cast off restraint; but happy is he who keeps
Divine communication produces a righteous people
- VI) God's Word is to be communicated with the authority of Heaven
God's Word rightly divided produces a biblically literate and holy people
Ps 119:9 How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.
Dt 6:6-9 And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
- VII) V19 A servant will not be corrected by mere words; for though he understands he will
This speaks of an attitude that lacks nobility
Even though he understands, he disobeys
- VIII) For him, reason and persuasion are useless because he refuses to listen
He only responds to harsh correction because he refuses to obey
- IX) V20 Do you see a man hasty in his words: there is more hope for a fool than for him
Fools are easier to train than a person who quickly shoots off their mouths

Pr 17:27 He who has knowledge spares his words, And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.

Pr 18:13 He who answers a matter before he hears it, It is folly and shame to him.

Pr 21:23 Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles

- I) V21 HE WHO: Pampers his servant from childhood will have him as a son in the end
Treat your servants with love and gentleness and they can develop love and loyalty
- II) V22 An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression
An easily angered man causes tremendous pain and frustration
Pr 17:19 He who loves a quarrel loves sin; he who builds a high gate invites destruction.
Pr 26:21 As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife
- III) V23 A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor
Humility brings exaltation, honor and respect
Pr 18:12 Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, and before honor is humility.
- IV) V24 Whoever is a partner with a thief hates his own life; he swears to tell the truth but
Being an accomplice to someone who is a lying thief brings repercussions
When audited examined in court, he withholds the truth and is complicit
- V) V25 The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe
When you are afraid to go against a groups opinions, you are a slave
- VI) When you trust the Lord, He gives you security and a sense who you really are
Ps 56:11 In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?
Jn 12:42-43 Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.
- VII) V26 Many seek the ruler's favor but justice for man comes from the Lord
Man does not always judge rightly, but God does
It may be after you die, but justice ultimately will be served
Ps 62:12 To You, O Lord, belongs mercy; for You render to each one according to his work
- VIII) V27 An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous and he who is upright in the way
There will always be contention between the righteous and ungodly

Our lifestyles are simply too different