

Uncommon Sense Choose Wisely

Proverbs 22:1-5 “A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. 2 The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the Maker of them all. 3 The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it. 4 The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life. 5 Thorns and snares are in the way of the crooked; whoever guards his soul will keep far from them.”

Be _____ “A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.” (v.1)

- **“A good name”** - standing, or reputation
- Not fame - not that people know your name; rather, what comes to mind when they hear your name.

Ecclesiastes 7:1 “A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth.”

- **“To be chosen”** - my choices determine my good standing

Proverbs 14:16 “One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.”

Be _____ “The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the Maker of them all.” (v.2)

- **“The rich and poor meet together”** - or “have this in common”
- **Equal standing in the eyes of the Lord**

Proverbs 29:13 “The poor man and the oppressor meet together; the Lord gives light to the eyes of both.”

- **How I treat others either honors, or dishonors the Lord:**

Proverbs 14:31 “Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.”

- **Love Your Neighbor AND Show Respect**

James 2:8-9 “If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. But if you show

partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.”

Be _____ “The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.” (v.3)

- **Prudent** (arum) - “crafty, subtle, shrewd, or sensible

“Sees danger and hides himself...”

- Wise people see the approach of sin and remove themselves from it, while naive people walk right into it and suffer the consequences.

Proverbs 14:16 “One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.”

Warnings About Seduction:

Proverbs 7:21-23 “With much seductive speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she compels him. All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast till an arrow pierces its liver; as a bird rushes into a snare; he does not know that it will cost him his life.”

Be _____ “Thorns and snares are in the way of the crooked; whoever guards his soul will keep far from them.” (v.5)

Smooth Sailing - Sometimes life is smooth and level, but sometimes it is full of snags and bumps

- Often it is simply life happening, but sometimes it is the result of my own choices.

Be a Person of Upright Character:

Proverbs 15:19 “The way of a sluggard is like a hedge of thorns, but the path of the upright is a level highway.”

“...whoever guards his soul will keep far from them.”

1 John 5:18 “We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.”

