Proverbs 12 – 29 October 2026
"The Path That Lasts"

Introduction

*The Book of Proverbs is broken into 5 sections
    *Chap 1-9 (Solomon – the only long form)
    *Chap 10-24 (Solomon – short form)
    *Chap 25-29 (Solomon – compiled later by Hez)
    *Chap 30 (Unknown man Agur)
    *Chap 31 (Unknown King Lemuel)
    *Chap 1:1-7, 31:10-31 (Unknown book compiler)

*1st section (Chap 1-9) was entirely about wisdom
*Chap 10 began the verse-by-verse short form help

Today, in chapter 12, much of the discussion is centered around the good way to go

*This is "The Path that Lasts"

*No outline today – just listen for the Lord to speak to you one verse at a time
*Ask the Lord which individual verses you need to hold on to

Read 12:1

1. Do you love to learn from the Master?
2. If not, you're acting like an animal, literally

Read 12:2

1. If your aim is goodness, which is godliness, you will find the Lord to be with you
2. If your aim is cunning & evil, you will be fighting against the Lord

Read 12:3

1. A benefit of living a life that pleases God according to His Word is confidence in the future
2. Obedience protects us, enabling us to endure hardness

Read 12:4

1. Wives have a great ability to either invigorate or totally deplete their husband
2. Notice, a husband's greatest need, more than love, is to be respected

a. This is in order with (Read) Eph 5:22 wife's role to submit to their husband
b. This is to be complemented by husbands loving their wives sacrificially
c. And it's beautiful when both are both performing their God-given roles

Read 12:5-6

1. Character is in the mind & comes out of the mouth
2. Which one characterizes you more?

Read 12:7

1. Your enemies have an expiration date
2. Read Rom 5:17 - Are you standing on the Rock of Righteousness, Jesus in order to stand forever?

Read 12:8

1. Friends of the perverse may be laughing with him, but they don't respect him – no loyalty there
2. The wise godly man seems like no fun, until life gets serious and you need help

Read 12:9

1. Say it this way, It's better to be humble & made a prosperous way for yourself, than to act prideful & being getting nowhere

Read 12:10

1. Be kind to the resources God's given us
    a. It should bother us when we hit roadkill
2. Know everything's proper value
    a. God→ humans→ animals→ plants
    b. It's wrong to treat unequal things equally

Read 12:11

1. Are we throwing our lives into valuable things?
2. In other words, are we consumers or doers?

Read 12:12

1. You can work hard at worthless pursuits, and it gets you no reward
2. Righteous one's work produces good things
3. This is much like (Read) Gal 6:4

Read 12:13

1. Telling lies is a hard life
    a. You have to remember the lies to be consistent
    b. You have to remember to whom you've told which lie
2. This is trouble that the righteous never have to deal with
    a. Honesty is simplicity

Read 12:14

1. The attitude by which we speak, and the work of our hands tends to come back to us
    a. Act like Scrooge, people will not come to you
    b. Act like Andrew Carnegie, people ***will*** return good

Read 12:15

1. When friends offer advice; can you take it?
2. When in trouble can you ask for advice?
3. The church is a body that has different abilities
    a. Let's use the church's diversity

Read 12:16

1. Can we control our emotions
    a. Patience is spiritual fruit God works in us
2. Don't react to situations, but pause & respond

Read 12:17

1. Interesting that the opposite of truth given hear is not lies but deceit
2. Heart of a lie is to trick someone w/ falsehood
    a. Like Satan in the Garden of Eden

Read 12:18

1. The built-in assumption is that we should care about how our words affect others
2. The tongue needs controlled (Read Jam 3:17)

Read 12:19

1. Be nervous when speaking lies, & be confident that speaking truth will have a good result

Read 12:20

1. There's a real difference given here in openness or closedness

2. What are we hiding in our heart?
3. Are we seeking peace?

Read 12:21

1. The idea is that b/c of their righteousness, they will experience no misfortune
    a. Living God's way can only leads to good
2. On the contrary, living the world's lifestyle will naturally lead to evil & harm

Read 12:22

1. And we think of lying as just a minor sin
2. God is looking for faithfulness in everyday life

Read 12:23

1. Wise people don't have to prove themself
2. Wise people don't have to be attention's center

Read 12:24

1. Listen to how Jesus concluded the Parable of the Talents speaking of the final judgement (Turn to Matt 25:24-29)

Read 12:25

1. What kind of good word does someone with anxiety need? (Read Phil 4:5-7)

Read 12:26

1. Righteous people are guides
    a. Guide as in 'searching for merchandise'
2. God's servants lead others toward good things
3. The wicked will lead you off the path of good

Read 12:27

1. The lazy person doesn't recognize or doesn't utilize the blessings that God provides
2. God's people see God's provisions as great grace
3. Don't be wasteful – it's disrespectful to God's working in your life

Read 12:28

1. Jesus said He's the resurrection & the life, those that believe in Him will never die (John 11)
2. Death has been swallowed up in victory for those that believe in Jesus

Conclusion

1. So, there you have Proverbs chapter 12
2. What did the Lord empress on you?
3. Let us believe in all that Jesus says
    a. Obtaining His righteousness
    b. Enabling us to walk on this good path of righteousness
    c. To the glory of God and our good