Words of the Wise Men - PROVERBS 22:17-24:22

The Thirty Sayings¹

18 Warnings, 7 Advice, 5 Warnings & Advice

Introduction – Apply your mind – 22:17-21

- 1. First (22:22-23)
 - **a.** Warning Do not rob the poor.
 - b. Reason (22:23) The Lord will plead their case and execute justice.
- **2. Second** (22:24-25)
 - a. Warning Do not associate with the hot-tempered
 - b. Reason You will become like him.
- 3. Third (22:26-27)
 - a. Warning Do not cosign for debts.
 - b. Reason You will end up paying someone else's debt.
- 4. Fourth (22:28)
 - a. Warning Do not move ancient boundaries.
- 5. Fifth (22:29)
 - a. Advice Be skillful in your profession.
 - b. Reason You will be recognized and blessed.
- 6. Sixth (23:1-3)
 - a. Warning Do not be a glutton before a king.
 - b. Reason There may be sinister purposes behind the hospitality.
- 7. Seventh (23:4-5)
 - a. Warning Do not be materialistic.
 - b. Reason Things will not last.
- 8. Eighth (23:6-8)
 - a. Warning Do not eat with a selfish person.
 - b. Reason He is deceptive and insincere and will cause you turmoil.
- 9. Ninth (23:9)
 - a. Warning Do not converse with a fool.
 - b. Reason He will despise your wisdom.
- 10. Tenth (23:10-11)
 - a. Warning Do not move ancient boundaries.
 - b. Reason There is one who will protect the interests of the family.

Prelude to sayings 11 through 30 – Apply your mind (23:12)

- 11. Eleventh (23:13-14)
 - a. Warning Do not hold back discipline from your children.
 - b. Reason You will save them from bad choices that lead to death.
- **12. Twelfth** (23:15-16)
 - a. Advice Be wise and upright.
 - b. Reason It will cause your parents to rejoice and be glad.
- 13. Thirteenth (23:17-18)
 - a. Warning & Advice Do not envy sinners. Do Fear the Lord.
 - b. Reason Your future and hope will be sure.

14. Fourteenth (23:19-21)

- a. Advice & Warning Be wise and do not associate with drunkards and gluttons.
- b. Reason It will lead to poverty.

15. Fifteenth (23:22-23)

- a. Advice & Warning Listen to your father and do not despise your mother when she is old.
- b. Reason You will store up wisdom for yourself.

16. Sixteenth (23:24-25)

- a. Advice Be wise.
- b. Reason You will cause your father and mother to be glad and rejoice.

17. Seventeenth (23:26-28)

- a. Advice & Warning Follow my ways and avoid the adulteress.
- b. Reason She will rob you and cause you to be unfaithful.

18. Eighteenth (23:29-35)

- a. Warning Do not be a drunkard.
- b. Reason It will affect your health and your thinking and lead to addiction.

19. Nineteenth (24:1-2)

- a. Warning Do not envy sinners.
- b. Reason They are violent and cause trouble.

20. Twentieth (24:3-4)

- a. Advice Be wise.
- b. Reason Security and blessing will be yours.

21. Twenty-first (24:5-6)

- a. Advice Get wise counsel.
- b. Reason You will succeed in your endeavors.

22. Twenty-second (24:7)

- a. Warning Do not be a fool.
- b. Reason You will have no hearing among wise men.

23. Twenty-third (24:8-9)

- a. Warning Do not plan sin.
- b. Reason You will be despised by others.

24. Twenty-fourth (24:10)

- a. Warning Do not give up.
- b. Reason You will limit your ability and achievement.

25. Twenty-fifth (24:11-12) Advice – Help people who are victimized.

26. Twenty-sixth (24:13-14)

- a. Advice Get wisdom which is sweet to the soul.
- b. Reason Your future will be secure.

27. Twenty-seventh (24:15-16)

- a. Warning Do not rob a godly person.
- b. Reason They will rise up and defend themselves.

28. Twenty-eighth (24:17-18)

- a. Warning Do not be glad when an enemy falls.
- b. Reason The Lord is the one who judges.

29. Twenty-ninth (24:19-20)

- a. Warning Do not envy sinners.
- b. Reason They do not have a future and will come to ruin.

30. Thirtieth (24:21-22)

- a. Advice and Warning Fear the Lord and avoid renegades.
- b. Reason They will suffer sudden harm.

Also Sayings of the Wise – 24:23-34

- **1.** First (24:23-25)
 - a. Warning Do not show favoritism in court.
 - b. Reason Cursing comes to the partial and blessing to the impartial.
- **2. Second** (24:26)
 - a. Advice Give an honest answer.
 - b. Reason It is pleasant like a kiss.
- 3. Third (24:27)
 - a. Advice Cultivate your field.
 - b. Reason It will give you income for building a house.
- 4. Fourth (24:28)

Warning – Do not give a false witness.

5. Fifth (24:29) Warning – Do not avenge yourself.

6. Sixth (24:30-34)

- a. Warning Do not be lazy.
- b. Reason It results in negligence and poverty
 - (1) Observation The condition of the lazy man's possessions.
 - (2) Reflection Look and learn.
 - (3) Conclusion Neglect will lead to poverty.

¹ Taken From Dr. Roy B. Zook, Unpublished Class Notes, Dallas Theological Seminary