

# The Book of PROVERBS

## Chapters 11 & 12

### “The Fruit of Wisdom!”

**Introduction:** Abraham Lincoln once penned, *When any church will inscribe over its altar, as its sole qualification for membership, the Saviour’s condensed statement of the substance of both law and Gospel, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and thy neighbor as thyself,” that church will I join with all my heart and all my soul.*

#### Chapter 11- “The Wisdom of Fruitful Living”

##### (v1-11) The Fruit of Righteousness

**v1- Dishonest scales vs. honesty-** Lev. 19:35-37- *'You shall do no injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, weight, or volume. You shall have honest scales, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. 'Therefore you shall observe all My statutes and all My judgments, and perform them: I am the LORD.' "* (Matt 21:12-13- *Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"*)

**v2- Pride vs. humility**

**v3- Integrity vs. perversity**

**v4- Riches vs. Righteousness**

**v5- Righteousness vs. wickedness**

**v6- Righteousness vs. unfaithfulness**

**v7-8- Hopelessness vs. deliverance**

**v9- Slander vs. knowledge**

**v10-11- National blessing vs. National cursing** (A quote from “One Nation Under God” by Rus Walton, this is strictly an insight to governmental ideologies within the U.S.A.)

##### (v12-23) Fruitful Relationships

**v12- Neighborly feud vs. neighborly peace**

**v13- Talebearers vs. faithfulness**

**v14- Failure vs. safety**

**v15- Suffering vs. security**

**v16- Graciousness vs. ruthlessness**

**v17- Mercy vs. cruelty**

**v18- Deceptive work vs. a sure reward**

**v19- Life vs. death**

**v20- Perversity vs. blamelessness**

**v21- Punishment vs. deliverance**

**v22- Miss Piggy**

**v23- Desire vs. wrath**

##### (v24-31) The Fruit of Generosity

**v24-26 Increase vs. poverty**

**v27 Good vs. evil**

**v28- Riches vs. righteousness** (Dave Ramsey writes on the topic of “GREED!”)

**v29-30- The foolish vs. the fruitful**

**v31- Reward vs. judgment**

## ***Chapter 12- “The Fruit of Knowledge”***

***(v1-12) We love instruction/correction!***

**> Dr. Benjamin Rush, the youngest signer of the *Declaration of Independence* has written the following statement regarding the value of the Bible as a textbook in the public school system: *It is now several months since I promised to give you my reasons for preferring the Bible as a schoolbook to all other compositions. Before I state my arguments, I shall assume the five following propositions:***

- 1- That Christianity is the only true and perfect religion; and that in proportion as mankind adopt its principles and obey its precepts they will be wise and happy.***
- 2- That a better knowledge of this religion is to be acquired by reading the Bible than in any other way.***
- 3- That the Bible contains more knowledge necessary to man in his present state than any other book in the world.***
- 4- That knowledge is most durable, and religious instruction most useful, when imparted in early life.***
- 5- That the Bible, when not read in schools, is seldom read in any subsequent period of life.***

**Abraham Lincoln affirms this truth by writing- *In regard to this great book [Bible], I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to men. All the good Saviour gave to the world was communicated through this book. But for it we could not know right from wrong. All things most desirable for man’s welfare, here and hereafter, are to be found portrayed in it.***

***(v13-22) The fruit of our lips***

***(v23-28) The fruit of our heart, our will, our emotions, our friends, our diligence, our destiny!***