

Proverbs 30:1-33

I. (Superscription)

- A. The sayings of Agur son of Jakeh – an oracle:
- B. This man declared to Ithiel, to Ithiel and to Ucal

II. (Inability to think true thoughts about God)

- A. (I don't understand God)
 - 1. "I am the most ignorant of men;
 - 2. I do not have a man's understanding.
 - 3. I have not learned wisdom
 - 4. nor have I knowledge of the Holy One.
- B. (No one can really comprehend God)
 - 1. Who has gone up to heaven and come down?
 - 2. Who has gathered up the wind in the hollow of his hands?
 - 3. Who has wrapped up the waters in his cloak?
 - 4. Who has established all the ends of the earth?
 - 5. What is his name, and the name of his son?
 - 6. Tell me if you know!

III. (The need of revelation for wisdom)

- A. "Every word of God is flawless;
- B. He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him
- C. Do not add to His words,
- D. or He will rebuke you and prove you a liar.

IV. (Inability to be loyal without grace)

- A. (Intro formula)
 - 1. "Two things I ask of You, O LORD;
 - 2. do not refuse me before I die:
- B. (Prayer)
 - 1. Keep falsehood and lies far from me;
 - 2. give me neither poverty nor riches,
 - 3. but give me only my daily bread.
- C. (Reason)
 - 1. Otherwise, I may have too much
 - 2. and disown You and say, 'Who is the LORD?'
 - 3. Or I may become poor and steal,
 - 4. and so dishonor the Name of my God.

V. (On slander)

- A. "Do not slander a servant to his master,
- B. or he will curse you, and you will pay for it.

VI. (Four classes of wrongdoers)

- A. (one- cursing)
 - 1. "There are those who curse their fathers
 - 2. and do not bless their mothers;
- B. (two- pride)
 - 1. those who are pure in their own eyes
 - 2. and yet are not cleansed of their filth;
- C. (three- mocking/scorning)
 - 1. those whose eyes are ever so haughty
 - 2. whose glances are so disdainful;
- D. (four- oppressing)
 - 1. those whose teeth are swords
 - 2. and whose jaws are set with knives
 - 3. to devour the poor from the earth
 - 4. the needy from among mankind

VII. (On greed)

- A. (A Proverb)
 - 1. “The leech has two daughters.
 - 2. ‘Give! Give! They cry.
- B. (Numerical series)
 - 1. “There are three things that are never satisfied,
 - 2. four that never say, ‘Enough!:
 - a. the grave
 - b. the barren womb
 - c. land, which is never satisfied with water,
 - d. and fire, which never says, ‘Enough!’

VIII. (On mocking/scorning)

- A. (cause)
 - 1. “The eye that mocks a father,
 - 2. that scorns obedience to a mother,
- B. (effect)
 - 1. will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley,
 - 2. will be eaten by the vultures

IX. (Inexplicable things)

- A. (Numerical series)
 - 1. “There are three things that are too amazing for me,
 - 2. four that I do not understand:
 - a. the way of an eagle in the sky
 - b. the way of a snake on a rock,
 - c. the way of a ship on the high seas
 - d. and the way of a man with a maiden
- B. (Adulteress)
 - 1. “This is the way of an adulteress:
 - 2. She eats and wipes her mouth and says, ‘I’ve done nothing wrong.’

X. (On unbearable people- numerical series)

- A. “under three things the earth trembles,
- B. Under four it cannot bear up:
 - 1. a servant who becomes king,
 - 2. a fool who is full of food,
 - 3. an unloved woman who is married,
 - 4. and a maidservant who displaces her mistress.

XI. (On the wisdom of small animals)

- A. “Four things on earth are small,
- B. Yet they are extremely wise:
 - 1. (Ants- industry)
 - a. Ants are creatures of little strength,
 - b. Yet they store up their food in the summer;
 - 2. (Coney [small badger]- dependence)
 - a. Coneys are creatures of little power,
 - b. Yet they make their home in the crags
 - 3. (locusts- organization/cooperation)
 - a. Locusts have no king,
 - b. Yet they advance together in ranks;
 - 4. (lizards- realizing potential/success)
 - a. A lizard can be caught with the hand
 - b. Yet it is found in kings’ palaces.

XII. (On pride/hubris- numerical series)

- A. “There are three things that are stately in their stride,
- B. Four that move with stately bearing:
 - 1. a lion, mighty among beasts, who retreats before nothing;
 - 2. a strutting rooster,
 - 3. a he-goat
 - 4. and a king with his army around him.

XIII. (On foolishness)

- A. (If)
 - 1. “If you have played the fool and exalted yourself,
 - 2. or if you have planned evil,
- B. (then)
 - clap your hand over your mouth!
- C. (reason)
 - 1. For as churning the milk produces butter,
 - 2. and as twisting the nose produces blood,
 - 3. so stirring up anger produces strife.”