



Tonight's Message:

The Call of Righteousness

Lesson 22

December 4, 2019

INTRODUCTION: Proverbs 12:28

Tonight, we will examine one of the ways in which we know if we are responding to the call of wisdom. If we are responding to wisdom's call, there will be righteousness in our daily lives. Those who obey the wisdom taught in God's Word will become more skillful in handling the affairs of life. God's wisdom must first transform our hearts and our character before He can guide and bless us. The words *righteous* and *righteousness* are often used in Proverbs (8:20, 10:28, 12:28). The wicked have hopes, but they are _____ hopes.

I. THE GOD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

The words: *righteous*, *righteousness*, and *upright*, speak of a moral conduct of holiness and separation from the world. Jesus warned us of living a life of outward righteousness, while the _____ is not right (*Matt. 5:21-48*).

A. Our God Is A Righteous God - I John 1:5

His character is holy and without sin. His ways are _____ (*Deut. 32:4, Ps. 11:7*).

B. God's Word Is Righteous - 8:6-9, Ps. 119:138

The Word of God reveals the _____ of the Word. They are inseparable. Today, we can rejoice that we have a perfect and preserved Word of God; but, we must be careful because, with the privilege of hearing and having God's Word comes the _____ of obeying His Word (*Heb. 12:25*).

C. God's Acts Are Righteous - Jer. 9:24, Dan. 9:14

We sometimes may question "why" God does something, but we can never accuse Him of being _____ or of doing anything wrong.

D. God Wants His People To Be Righteous - 19:5-6, Matt.

5:48

The problem is that people are people and all people, by birth and nature, are sinners (*21:2*).

E. God Provides Righteousness For Those Who Will Accept It - 21:3

God justifies the guilty sinner when they, by faith, trust Jesus as Saviour. The only way to be righteous before God is to trust Jesus Christ and receive _____ righteousness as a free gift (*Rom. 5:17, 2 Cor. 5:21*).

How does this righteousness work itself out in the life of God's people?

- God's people _____ righteousness (*1:3, 25:26*). True faith always leads to works.
- God's people speak righteousness (*10:11, 11:30, 12:6*).
- God's people _____ righteousness (*15:9*)

II. THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

A. God's People Experience His Direction - 3:5-6, 11:5

B. God's People Can Experience Deliverance - 11:6

God's people certainly will have their share of trials and testings, but the Lord promises to help them and make these experiences turn out for _____ *Rom. 8:28*.

C. God's People Are Promised His Provision - 8:20-21

Believers today can be sure of God's provision for their every day needs as they obey His will (*Phil. 4:19*).

III. THE INFLUENCE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS - Gen. 12:2

A. They Are Blessed In Their Character - 12:19, 22

Phillip Brooks said, "The purpose of this life is to build character through following the truth." The more we become like Christ, the _____ we enjoy the things of this world.

B. They Are Blessed In Their Home - 3:33, 14:11

C. They Are Blessed As Citizens And Leaders

The greatest leaders down through history have been Christian people (*11:10-11, 29:2*). During times of spiritual decay, it was the godly remnant of righteous people who maintained the flickering light of spiritual life in the nation. Godly people can raise godly children, and godly children can provide godly influence in their community and their nation. As goes the _____, so goes the church; as goes the church, so goes the nation (*Pro. 33:12*).