

Series – Proverbs and Parenting
The Battle for the Simple
Proverbs 1:8-33 May 15, 2022

Introduction

Ps 24:8
8 Who is this King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,
The LORD mighty in battle.

Battle

A **proverb** is a “pithy” statement.

The Two-fold Purpose of Proverbs

1. to produce the skill necessary for godly living
2. to develop discernment

An All-important Motto

The fear of the Lord is the foundation for all spiritual knowledge and wisdom.

The Sons of Proverbs

The wise son

The foolish son (scoffer)

The simple son

The Battle for the Simple

1. The value of wisdom

- a. The Foundation

- b. The Assumptions
- c. The Typical Old Testament Model
- d. Joint Responsibility
- e. The Responsibility of the Child
 - “hear”
 - “instruction”
 - “do not forsake”
 - “laws” (Torah)

Parents, there is no greater battle today than for the hearts and souls of our children.

- f. The Benefits to the Family

2. The description and tactics of sinners (fools)

a. The Call to Sin

What does a parent need to teach a simple son or daughter?

1. There are sinners in the world.
2. They will entice you.
3. Peer pressure is hard to resist.
4. They offer an identity.

Parents, the threat is real.

What should you do?

*8 My son, hear the instruction of your father,
And do not forsake the law of your mother;*

b. The Warning

What does a parent need to teach a simple son or daughter about the enticement of sinners?

1. There is a right way and a wrong way.
2. They (sinners) will try to trick you into a bad course of life.

3. In reality, they set a trap for themselves.
4. Their “one for all, all for one” approach leads to the death of all who are involved.

Parents, the threat is real.
What should you do?

*8 My son, hear the instruction of your father,
And do not forsake the law of your mother;*

c. The Passion and Energy of Wisdom

Parents are to be passionate and energetic about calling their simple children to wisdom.

Wisdom is essential for your child.

1. Wisdom represents a manner of thinking and attitude concerning life's experiences.
2. It includes matters of general interest and basic morality.
3. These concerns relate to
 - * prudence in secular affairs
 - * skills in the arts
 - * moral sensitivity
 - * experience in the ways of the Lord

Wisdom has to work hard to attract your child.

1. Calls aloud
2. Raises her voice
3. Cries out
4. Speaks

Who is supposed to be doing all this? The parents

Why does Wisdom have to work so hard?

d. The Consequences of Rejecting Wisdom

1. A bad, evil life style
2. Rejection of the word of the Lord
3. Eternal destruction

Is that what we want for our children?

What do we want for our children?

e. The Security Found in Heeding Wisdom

If a child will listen to wisdom with the intent to obey -

Then that child will –

- * dwell safely
- * be secure
- * live without the fear of evil

Is that what we want for our children?

How about you?

There is a battle going on for our children.

What kind of teacher are you?

Don't be on the wrong path.

Don't be a couch potato sitting on the right path.

Get into the battle for the mind, character, and spiritual nature of the next generation.

It is not easy.

But, it is worth it.

*Prov. 1:33 But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,
And will be secure, without fear of evil."*