

BIBLE SERMON: PROVERBS CHAPTER 26

[2] The title of the sermon: "PROVERBS CHAPTER 26."

Proverbs Chapter 26 Verse By Verse

- We're going to continue in the Book of Proverbs verse by verse.
- Let's start there in verse 1 of Proverbs Chapter 26.

[3] ***Proverbs 26:1 As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.***

- Honor and fools do not go together just as snow in summer and rain in harvest.
- Honor comes from the fear of the Lord and fools do not have any fear of the Lord.

[4] ***Psalm 15:4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.***

For example, I've been talking with a man who, at this time, is a fool.

- Maybe I am wasting my time, and maybe I'm not.
- He says things like this: "Everybody wants to talk about the Almighty God but someone made him too."
- I told him to think about what he just said. God is God because He is eternal.

There has to be an eternal being. I listen to the man and what he thinks about things.

- Some of the things that he says agrees with the Bible. So I told him that he just agreed with the Bible.
- And he didn't like that too much. But I'll keep trying.
- But, right now, he is a fool because he doesn't believe in Jesus Christ. So he has no honor.
- Fools and honor do not go together.

[5] ***Proverbs 26:2 As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.***

- Birds wander. Swallows fly. A swallow is a type of bird. I know swallows very well.
- When mowing, I've come to know swallows very well.
- The first time I figured out what they were I almost went and got the shotgun.

I was on the mower. A huge group of them, one at a time, were swooping in right at my head while mowing.

- And they didn't stop. I thought they were warning me or attacking or something.
- But I watched them closely, and they were after the bugs that were flying up from the mowing.
- They are very good and very precise at flying. If they wanted to hit me, they would have hit me.
- Birds wander, swallows fly, and the CURSE causeless shall not come. There is a cause for curses.
- Do you remember the very first curse in the entire Bible? There was a good cause for this curse.

[6] ***Genesis 3:14-15 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the***

days of thy life: 15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

- Satan received the very first curse in all the Bible in Genesis Chapter 3.
- Cain received a curse as well in Genesis Chapter 4.

[7] Genesis 4:9-12 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground. 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

- When God curses someone or something, there is always a righteous cause for the cursing.
- And then it goes the other way too. The evil and wicked will always want to curse the righteous.

[8] Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

- When the wicked curses you, God can turn that curse into a blessing. He says so within the Bible.

[9] Deuteronomy 23:5 Nevertheless the LORD thy God would not hearken unto Balaam; but the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee, because the LORD thy God loved thee.

- God can easily turn curses into blessings for you.

[10] 2 Samuel 16:11-12 And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how much more now may this Benjamite do it? let him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him. 12 It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day.

- So, listen, people will curse you for loving God Almighty and Jesus Christ. Let them curse.
- I don't care what those people think of me. I love Jesus Christ, and I will choose His side every time.
- And I'm talking about the actual Jesus Christ who tells us what is good and bad within His words.

For example, Jesus Christ is against LGBTQ. I don't care what these fools out there say.

- They'll say, "Jesus is for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queers." They would be 100% wrong.
- Jesus Christ gives us His law, and it is good. His laws are perfect. And He would put them to death.
- He says so. He says they are an abomination or greatly hated by God. And I don't care what you think.
- And you can curse me all you want. I welcome it. God will turn your cursing into a blessing.
- So thank you. Keep on cursing me.

[11] Proverbs 26:3 A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.

- All of these things fit the object perfectly. You need a whip for a horse. You need a bridle for an ass.

- They are stubborn and won't go where you want without a whip and a bridle.
- Same thing for a fool. A fool deserves stripes from a rod on their back.

[12] Psalm 32:9 *Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.*

- A fool is just like this. They have no understanding because they reject God and His ways.
- For example, you are a fool if you are for LGBTQ. You should be against this evil and wickedness.
- But, no, this world wants to act like it's best for everyone. They say, "Jesus would love them."
- They are 100% wrong. The Bible is NEVER FOR LGBTQ. Not once. Doesn't exist. WRONG.
- And I'm sick of hearing this trash.

Jesus Christ Does Not Agree With Homosexuality

A former Bush advisor said that Jesus Christ would be for teaching young children that homosexuality is good.

- He thinks the actual Jesus Christ would be for this evil and wicked teaching.
- What an idiot and what a fool. What would Jesus Christ actually teach? Here's what He teaches.

[13] Deuteronomy 23:17-18 *There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. 18 Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.*

- Jesus Christ calls sodomites or homos DOGS. That's what God thinks of them.
- And if you think I'm wrong, you should start reading the Bible. It's right there. And there's more.

[14] 1 Kings 15:11-12 *And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father. 12 And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.*

- Jesus Christ, when He reigns over this earth, will take the sodomites out of the land.
- Sodomites or homosexuals will be put to death.
- So, if you think Jesus Christ is for homos, you would be a fool.
- Honor is not seemly for a fool. God will curse you. And a rod is for a fool's back.

[15] Proverbs 26:4-5 *Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him. 5 Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.*

- Fools will try to convince you with some idiotic examples. Let's take abortion for example.
- A fool will say, "Are you telling me a woman who was raped shouldn't have the right to kill the baby?"
- Under NO CIRCUMSTANCE is abortion okay. God never says murdering a baby is okay.

Why should the little child pay for the sins of the evil and wicked man?

- The child didn't commit the sin. You can't fix an evil act with another evil act.
- God will take care of that man who committed evil. The baby isn't responsible for that sin.
- That's just stupid, ignorant, and foolish thinking.

So, keep this in mind. "Answer not a fool according to his folly." Do you really think it's okay to kill a baby?

- "A woman should have the right to murder a child that was conceived through rape."
- No, that's just foolish. Think about it. You'll end up just like that fool. A fool thinks he is wise.
- Fools are conceited. They think they know better than God. And that's just foolish.
- They even make up lies about God Almighty so their views and God's views align.
- Except they don't. In their mind, though, they do align. They think they are God.

[16] Proverbs 26:6-9 He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, and drinketh damage. 7 The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools. 8 As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so is he that giveth honour to a fool. 9 As a thorn goeth up into the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouth of fools.

- Don't rely on fools to send the right messages for you. God doesn't.
- For example, the TV preachers don't work for God. They work for Satan.
- God doesn't rely on fools to send His messages because they cause damage.
- Fools can't understand the parables within the Bible.

They can't even understand the clear words of Jesus Christ. How would they understand parables?

- Jesus says, "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." The fools say, "No, there's more."
- If they can't understand the simple doctrine of salvation in the Bible, how will they understand parables?
- This is just as the legs of the lame are not equal. They trip and fall all over the clear doctrine in the Bible.
- A sling is meant to throw the stone. Binding a stone in the sling doesn't make any sense.
- This is the same as giving honor to a fool. Let me ask you some questions.

Is a person who believes abortion is a woman's right a fool?

- Is a person who believes homosexuals are good people a fool?
- Is a person who believes everyone should take the Covid vaccine a fool?
- Is a person who believes Jesus Christ loves everyone a fool?
- Yes, they would be fools. And our President Joe Biden believes all of those things. He's a fool.
- And I do not give honor to fools because this is just like binding a stone in a sling.
- Now, try to sling the stone. What happens? It's coming back at you and hitting you.

If you haven't noticed, the Bible is focusing on fools. In this country today, there's a lot of them.

- And there's a lot on both sides of politics. Forget politics and focus on God. Do the right things.
- A parable in the mouth of fools is like a drunkard getting a thorn in his hand.
- He doesn't even realize he has it in his hand because he's drunken.
- They don't understand the parables, but yet, they will attempt to teach them to you.
- These fools in churches today that call themselves pastors attempt to teach the Bible.
- They know nothing about God and His words.

[17] Proverbs 26:10 The great God that formed all things both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.

- Continuing on the topic of fools. The great God will reward the fools and the transgressors.
- Joe Biden won't get by with what he's done and what he's doing now.
- There's a man in the news who says that the Bible should be banned from all schools.

- He says that since Florida wants to ban the queer and homo books that the Bible should be banned too.
- He says that the Bible is just as graphic as those LGBTQ books. He's an idiot and a fool.
- He knows nothing about the Bible and nothing about God. God will repay that fool and that transgressor.

[18] Proverbs 11:31 *Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.*

- You will get back what you do in this earth. Do good and get good. Do evil and get evil.
- The righteous will be recompensed, but the wicked will REALLY be recompensed.
- That man who hates God and the Bible should read more of the Bible. He thinks he knows something.
- Yet, he knows absolutely NOTHING. Here's his warning from God.

[19] Deuteronomy 7:9-10 *Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations; 10 And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face.*

- Imagine that. FACE TO FACE WITH THE ALMIGHTY GOD WHO IS JESUS CHRIST.
- That man will fall flat on his face and be as dead when he sees Jesus Christ.
- He talks trash about Him, but he won't get away with it. God will repay that man to his face.
- He will destroy that man. He will not be slack to them who hate him.
- And, of course, that man won't care because he has no fear of God. But he will when this happens.
- It will be too late for that fool, though.

[20] Proverbs 26:11 *As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.*

- Dogs vomit and then they return to that vomit and eat it again.
- Homosexuals are referred to as dogs within the Bible. They are great fools.
- They do these nasty and evil acts, which should make you want to vomit, and then they return to it again.
- Dogs do the same things. Dogs have no conscience. They don't understand right and wrong.

Reprobates Are Similar To Animals

Same thing with reprobates who have been rejected by God. They are just like animals.

- And yes, many times, dogs are nice. They are your friend. But, if they are starving, they will eat you.
- Turn your back on a starving dog, and they will devour you. Fools return to their folly over and over again.

[21] Matthew 7:6 *Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.*

- I am not preaching this to the dogs and the swine. I am preaching this to believers who love God.
- God tells us that homosexuals are reprobates in Romans Chapter 1. There is no good reprobate.
- They are foolish, and they prove that by choosing to be a homosexual.
- There are many other fools out there who aren't homosexuals. Fools continue to return to sin.

We all continue to sin, but there's a difference because we aren't complete fools.

- We believe in God, and we trust in Jesus Christ as "THE" Savior of the world. We're not dogs.
- We have a conscience. We don't teach children that they can change their gender.
- We don't lead them to death. We don't teach evil things. We teach right things.

And God gets to decide what's right and what's wrong. And He gives us His judgements within the Bible.

- Reprobates knew God. They had the knowledge of God. They know He is real. They know He exists.
- But they reject Him. They don't want to retain God in their knowledge. And then God rejects them.
- They are now complete fools who return to their vomit over and over again.

[22] 2 Peter 2:19-20 *While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. 20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.*

[23] 2 Peter 2:21-22 *For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.*

- They knew the way of righteousness, but they never believed on Jesus Christ.
- They knew that He is the way, the truth, and the life. But they rejected Him one last time.
- But they are fools and so they returned to their own vomit yet again.
- And they will never find the right way ever again.

[24] Proverbs 26:12 *Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him.*

- There are too many people to number out there today who are wise in their own conceit.
- God can't teach them anything because they think they know better than Him.
- There is more hope of a fool than of him.
- "Hey, let me show you what God says in the Bible."
- "No thanks. I already know better than God." That's wise in your own conceit.

When you attempt to make everyone one happy, especially these fools like this, you only lead to more of it.

- "Answer a fool not according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit."
- If you make the conceited man feel even better about himself, you help lead to this conceit.
- You help lead this man to think he knows better than God.
- So I always say, "Well, God says this and God says that." I don't agree with these fools.

[25] Proverbs 26:13-16 *The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets. 14 As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed. 15 The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth. 16 The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.*

- Notice that we've been talking about fools, and now we reach the slothful man.
- Slothful people are fools. There's always an excuse for doing nothing.

- "I can't go outside because there's a lion in the streets."
- "I can't go outside because it's cold. It's too hot. The sun is out. It's too humid."
- "It's going to rain later. It might snow. It might sleet. It's too windy to work today."

Sloths and Sluggards Always Make Excuses

There's always an excuse. Slothful people allow everything to stop them from doing good.

- Think of a door on hinges. Think about the door you use the most at your home.
- It's turning on its hinges many times each day. The slothful man turns in his bed the same way.

Sloths and sluggards will even get so lazy that they won't move their arms.

- People won't even lift their arms to feed themselves because they are too lazy.
- When you find a sluggard, you'll also find a conceited person who thinks he or she is wise.
- Verse 16 says that the sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men can render a reason.
- Do you know why God Almighty can't stand lazy people? Because they don't do anything He asks.
- Working for God is hard work. It's not easy. A slothful person won't do any of this hard work.

[26] Matthew 25:24-26 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: 25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. 26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

[27] Matthew 25:27-30 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. 28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. 29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. 30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- The slothful person will always whine and complain that a hard working person is just working too much.
- "Well, I can't keep up with you. I quit." I've had people workout with me before, and they quit.
- "This is too hard. I quit." They always say, "I knew thee that thou are an hard man."
- "I was afraid to do anything because I didn't think I would do it right."

Hey, just get to work and try to do something. Why are you afraid of everything?

- Slothful people are whiners and complainers. Give something a shot, and you'll learn a lot.
- God will cast the lazy and slothful people who are too lazy to even believe on Him into hell.

I've seen it enough. Knock on a sloth's door to give him the Gospel, and he's too lazy to even listen.

- "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." God put you here to work.
- If you don't like it, then you are rejecting God's plan for you. Stop allowing every little thing to stop you.
- "There's a lion in the streets. I can't go outside today. I must stay inside and do nothing today."

Come on, man. Get over yourself. Get off your butt. Get up. Do something good for once.

- If you would just put some effort into something, you would see that it's amazing to work hard.

- And yes, I love to work hard. God made me to work hard.
- And I will work hard in this body until the day I die, or until God stops me.
- And then after that, I will continue to work hard for God for all of eternity. And He knows that.
- God chooses people to do great things for Him that work hard.

Noah wasn't lazy. Can you imagine building an ark that size? Moses wasn't lazy.

- Imagine leading stiffnecked people through the wilderness for years and years.
- Jeremiah sure wasn't lazy. Ezra and Nehemiah weren't lazy. David wasn't lazy.
- Even as a young man he worked very hard and he took out Goliath.
- If he were a sloth, he would have been in the house.

The people in the Bible didn't do great things by sitting in the house.

- Do you think Joshua was lazy? Does God ever tell us to sit in the house and do nothing?
- No, He doesn't. It's time to get to work for Him. Do what He says. Stop being a sloth.

The men and women of the Bible got dirty. It's okay to get dirty outside. Think of all the work Jesus Christ did.

- They had to wash their feet because of the dirt they had on them from working hard.
- They didn't stay inside

[28] Proverbs 26:17 He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.

- Many things are none of your business. This is what the Bible is teaching.
- When you meddle in things that aren't your business, it is like taking a dog by the ears.
- Have you ever tried that? You'll make the dog mad, and the dog will want to bite.
- And, most likely, it's not going to end up good for you.

Now, remember what this chapter has been teaching. We've been learning about fools, sloths and sluggards.

- Fools meddle in the business of others. Sloths do the same thing because they aren't doing anything else.
- For example, I have a lot of work to do each day. I'm not worrying about what my neighbor is doing.
- He can do what he wants.

For example, on the Nextdoor app, you will find women who watch everything that their neighbor is doing.

- "Well, he did this today. Or, she isn't giving her dog enough attention."
- "The dog is not being socialized properly." Hey, listen, BUSYBODY women, mind your own business.
- The husbands of these busybody women should be telling their wives to mind their own business.

[29] Proverbs 18:6 A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes.

- Why cause contention over things that aren't your business?

[30] Proverbs 20:3 It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.

- Why cause strife because you are meddling in the business of others?
- For example, the lady on Nextdoor is calling animal control on the woman because she isn't socializing and giving her dog enough attention.

- Why is this lady watching everything her neighbor is doing? It's very simple.
- She has nothing else to do. She's a lazy sluggard. She's a fool. She needs to get to work.
- And then she won't have time to worry about every step her neighbor takes.

Mind Your Own Business

As another example, a neighbor of mine might come and try to tell me I can't do something on my property that I've already had approved.

- It's none of his business. I'm not bothering him. He's bothering me. He's starting the contention.
- Listen, God takes this very serious. He doesn't want you meddling in the business of others.
- If you don't believe me, listen to this next verse.

[31] 1 Peter 4:15 *But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.*

- A busybody in other men's matters. What else is listed along with a busybody?
- Murderer, thief, evildoer. So God is saying it's very evil to get into other men's matters.
- And we could do an entire sermon on this topic. There's plenty of Scriptures that teach the same thing.

[32] 1 Thessalonians 4:11 *And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;*

[33] 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 *For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. 11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. 12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.*

[34] 1 Timothy 5:13-14 *And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. 14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.*

- There are many women who are busybodies and can't stay out of the business of others.
- They have learned to be idle. They care about animals more than people.
- They love to start fights with neighbors because they think animals are more important than humans.
- They have nothing else to do. They are lazy bums. They are tattlers and busybodies.

They speak things which they ought not. They need to focus on their own business.

- If they don't have enough business to focus, they need to get some business to do.
- Don't meddle in the business of others. GOD SAYS SO. I didn't come up with that. HE DID.

[35] Proverbs 26:18-19 *As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death, 19 So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour, and saith, Am not I in sport?*

- A man who deceives his neighbor and acts like he was just playing around is like a MAD MAN.

- The mad man casts actual firebrands, arrows, and death and then says, "Oh, I was just playing."
- Imagine shooting an actual bullet at someone and saying, "I was just kidding."
- This is like the man who deceives his neighbor. Why would you do these things? This is evil.

[36] Proverbs 10:23 *It is as sport to a fool to do mischief: but a man of understanding hath wisdom.*

- So, again, we are still talking about fools who love to play games. They think mischief is a game.
- They love to cause trouble instead of being quiet and doing their own business.
- And you don't want to have any relation to any of these things God is speaking of here.

[37] Proverbs 26:20-22 *Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth. 21 As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife. 22 The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.*

- Fools, sloths, sluggards, busybodies, meddlers, and now we see talebearers. They are all related.
- They are all fools. Don't feed the fire for a talebearer. When you stop feeding the fire, it goes out.
- And they leave. And they don't come back. The strife ceases. You don't want to be one that causes strife.
- A contentious man kindles strife. They love to cause problems when there weren't any problems.
- They want to keep the fire burning. A talebearer loves strife. His words are as wounds.
- They go down to the innermost parts of the belly.

[38] Proverbs 20:19 *He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.*

- Talebearers are meddlers. They add things to stories constantly.
- They reveal secrets that aren't theirs to reveal. They insert themselves into your business.
- They are very flattering. They act as if they are kind, nice, and loving.
- You need to watch out for these types of people.
- "Therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips." BE VERY CAREFUL.

[39] Proverbs 26:23 *Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross.*

- A potsherd is a broken pot. Imagine that covered with silver dross or worthless silver leftovers.
- Burning lips are those that are always flattering you. Add to that a wicked heart.
- This is just like that worthless pot covered in silver dross. It's no good.

[40] Proverbs 26:24-26 *He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him; 25 When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart. 26 Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation.*

- Again, the Bible is relating all of these things to fools or people who constantly do foolishness.
- A hateful person dissembles with his lips. He's trying to cause contention, strife, and problems.
- "When he speaketh fair, believe him not." There are people who act like they are speaking good words.
- They speak with supposed kindness and favor to gain your respect.

They act as if they are concerned about the situation. But they aren't.

- "For there are seven abominations in his heart." His hatred is covered by deceit.
- "His wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation."
- These people will be found out, and the wickedness within them shall be shown.
- To who? It will be shown before the WHOLE CONGREGATION.

[41] Proverbs 10:18 *He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool.*

- Again, Proverbs Chapter 26 is focusing on fools and what they do. Watch out for them.
- And whatever you do, NEVER do these things that fools do. Wake up.

[42] Proverbs 26:27 *Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.*

- Wicked men and women love to dig pits for others to fall into.
- They love to roll large stones at people so they can hit them and watch them fall.
- But, be very careful out there, fools. God is going to take you down.
- Do evil and evil returns unto you. Dig a pit for someone, and you will fall into that pit.

Do Evil and That Evil Will Return to You

Roll a stone at someone else to watch them get hit, and it's like rolling the stone uphill.

- That stone is going to come back to you. Roll it up the hill, and it comes right back to you.
- Keep on setting those evil and wicked traps for others, and you will be trapped.
- And there won't be any way out of that trap either. GOD IS COMING FOR YOU.

[43] Proverbs 26:28 *A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.*

- Fools have lying tongues and flattering mouths. These fools HATE OTHER people.
- Their lies and deceit afflict others, and God hates this. Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord.
- Their flattering mouths worketh ruin. "But their flattery makes me FEEL SO GOOD."
- "I love them so much." Hey, it's time to wake up. Their flattering mouth will ruin you.

The Bible commands you to meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.

- This includes false preachers in false churches. They love to flatter you with their lips.
- Actually, most people expect this to be a trait of so-called "pastors" in the churches today.
- "If you can't flatter me, then you can't be my pastor." That's what people think.
- And the people who think this fit perfectly into the category of fools that we've been speaking of today.

Pastors from God will teach God's words, and His words aren't here to flatter you. God won't flatter you.

- I won't flatter you because I take my lead from God. He is my leader. I'm going with Him.
- I'm going to teach what He says, and I don't care if you don't like it.
- If you love God, you will love what He teaches us when we come together as a congregation.
- And yes, it will hurt at times and it won't flatter you. Evil people will flatter you.
- And that's it for Proverbs Chapter 26. I hope you've gained wisdom from this sermon.

Let's pray.