



# Gaining a Good Name God's Way

# A Good Name

In Prov 22:1, “a good name is the outward expression of the person’s inner wisdom”

(Bruce Waltke, *Proverbs*, II:199)

# PROVERBS 3:27-35 - MESSAGE

Wisdom holds the godly accountable for neighborly interactions and gives them hope of priceless reward

God's way is to willingly disadvantage yourself through sacrifice and entrust the results to Him

# Proverbs 3: Find favor with God and men by attaining wisdom

1-12

- An unreserved relationship with Yahweh is the basis for favor with God and men

13-26

- A life that finds favor with God

27-35

- A life that finds favor with men

# Unfailingly faithful covenant love

## I. Don't neglect or make trouble with neighbors (27-31)

### Choosing to neglect:

Withholding needed help (27)

Verbally delaying your help (28)

### Choosing to injure:

Plotting to harm your neighbor (29)

Verbally contending with him (30)

# Proverbs 3:27-28

You don't have an obligation to help:

- Sluggard who refuses to work
- Leech who takes but doesn't contribute
- Prov 19:24; 30:15; 2 Thess 3:10, 12; Eph 4:28



# NT COMMANDS

“do good...be generous and ready to share...be ready for every good work... while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith”

(1 Tim 6:18; Titus 3:1; Gal 6:10)

# Unfailingly faithful covenant love

- I. Don't neglect or make trouble with neighbors (27-31)
- II. Don't envy the violent neighbor (31)
- III. Your choice will make a huge difference in how God responds (32-35)



# 4 contrasts – Why obey Prov 3:27-35?

## **Yahweh's Response**

- Assessment
- Action
- Reaction
- Recompense

## **Devious/wicked/ scoffer/fool**

- Abomination
- Curse
- Scoffing
- Disgrace



**Accountability**

## **Upright/righteous/ humble/wise**

- Friend
- Blessing
- Grace
- Glory



**Hope**

# Proverbs 3:32 – God’s secret council

Secret things or counsel (advice, Prov 11:13; 20:19; 25:9; 15:22), a council of intimate friends or leaders (inner circle, Ps 55:14; 89:7)

Ps 25:14 “**The secret of Yahweh is for those who fear Him, and He will make them know His covenant**”. Allen Ross says, “there is close, intimate communion between God and his people; he reveals his heart as well as his will to them [and] reveals secret things about the covenant” (*Expositor’s*, 5:603).



# Proverbs 3:34 – The humble

- The poor, the lowly, the downtrodden (“those at the bottom of life’s heap”, Alec Motyer, *Isaiah By The Day*, p. 27)
- But this isn’t due to their sin
- They are also called the righteous and the wise

