




Wisdom on Surety and Sloth



PROVERBS 6:1-11 - MESSAGE

Use vivid pictures to
unmask dangers like surety
and sloth

Proverbs 6 - Vivid pictures unmask dangers

1-19

Several dangers

Surety (1-5)

Sloth (6-11)

Troublemakers & Divisive People (20-35)

20-35

Sexual sin – Lecture 9

Proverbs 6:1-11

I. Foolishness may cost you

Surety is dangerous (1-2)

Solution: deliver yourself! (3-4)

Similes of escaping danger (5)

II. Laziness will cost you

Solution: learn from the ant! (6-8)

Sloth is dangerous (9-10)

Similes of impending danger (11)



Proverbs 6:1-11

I. Foolishness may cost you

Surety is dangerous (1-2)

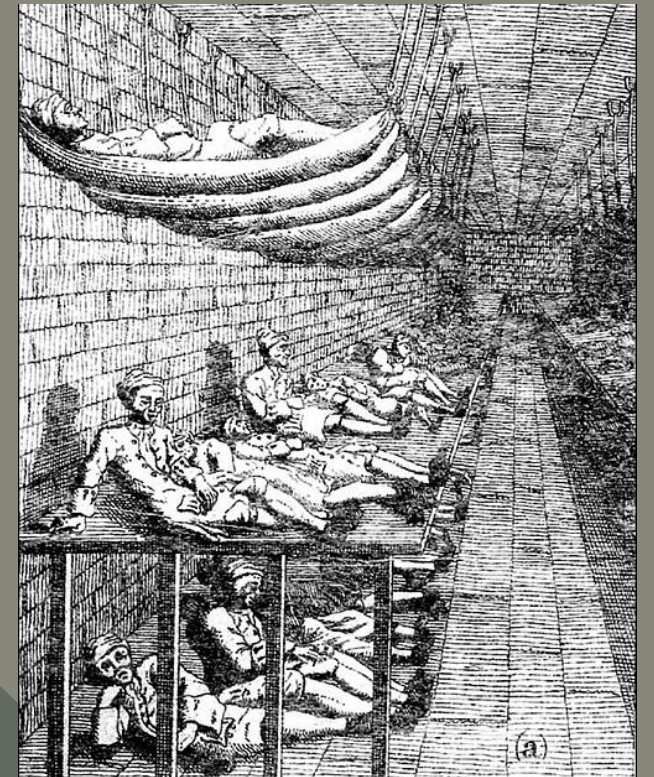
Solution: deliver yourself! (3-4)

Similes of escaping danger (5)



BECOMING SURETY, GUARANTOR FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S DEBT

1. It is likely to do you harm (Prov 20:16; 27:13)
2. You have no control over that harm and you may not have the money later (Prov 11:15; 22:26-27)
3. It shows a lack of wisdom (Prov 17:18)
4. Deliver yourself ASAP! (Prov 6:1-5)



Wisdom for meeting needs

1. Hasty decisions are not wise (Prov 19:2b; 20:21; 28:20b)
2. God designs consequences for foolish or sinful behavior to be “chastening lessons” (discipline, Prov 6:23)
3. It is better to give to those in real need (Prov 3:27-28; Dt 15:7-11)

Proverbs 6:3

Humble yourself

- Wear yourself out until you wear down your neighbor

Badger

- “to rush upon one boisterously”
(Waltke, *Proverbs*, 1:334)



Proverbs 6:1-11

II. Laziness will cost you

Solution: learn from the ant! (6-8)

Sloth is dangerous (9-10)

Similes of impending danger (11)



Each ant does its part God-given instinct

“Rather than having external leaders who both organize the work with regard to its nature and its timing and see it through to completion, the ant possesses a God-given wisdom to work and, just as significantly, to order it wisely”

(Bruce Waltke, *Proverbs*, I:337)

Proverbs 6:9-10

Laziness produces guilt. So, you sleep to escape. That produces more guilt, so you want more sleep to escape, and on and on...

For the sluggard, sleep is “escapism...narcotic sleep” (Waltke)

For the sluggard, sleep is a drug to quiet the noise of guilt

Work first, then sleep will be sweet (Eccl 5:12)

