***PROVERBS***

**Ch. 11:21-31**

**Proverbs 11:21**

 A. Even collectively, man is not strong enough to resist God---**Example**---Tower of Babel (Gen. 11:1-9)

 B. God’s blessing will be upon His righteous ones, and upon their descendants (their seed)

**Proverbs 11:22**

 A. Solomon used a humorous and absurd word picture---the ornament doesn’t match the thing adorned.

 B. Likewise, it doesn’t fit to have a lovely woman who does not have the wisdom or self-control that marks discretion

 1. This picture implies an immoral way of life

**Proverbs 11:23**

 A. The good character of a righteous man or woman is reflected in their desires. They desire that which is good.

 B. The good desires of the righteous will be fulfilled, and that which is due to the wicked will come to them.

**Proverbs 11:24**

 A. This refers to Biblical generosity, which is like the scattering of seed (**2 Cor. 9:8-13**)

 B. To be stingy and to hold on to more than is right is to lead to poverty.

 1. If we are selfish and ungenerous with what God gives us, we should then expect God to grant less to us

**Proverbs 11:25**

 A. “Liberal”---generous: God has promised to bless the generous soul with riches in this world, the next, or both!

 1. “Fat” refers to “Rich”---A metaphor that connotes wealth, abundance, full satisfaction, and health---**Deut.31:20**

 B. We can’t water, without being watered ourselves---We never lose for our God-guided generosity (**Acts 20:35**)

**Proverbs 11:26**

 A. This is one who manipulates to gain a higher price---such a person will be opposed by God and cursed by the people

 B. The one who provides grain and goods will be blessed by the community---This is both spiritual and practical

**Proverbs 11:27**

 A. God honors those who earnestly seek good, and they may receive favor with God and among men.

 1. This is especially true when the good sought is God Himself (Deuteronomy 4:29, Matthew 7:7).

 B. Seeking evil brings trouble----This trouble is often simply finding the evil that we have sought!

**Proverbs 11:28**

 A. To put trust in riches is to invite our own fall.

 B. The righteous man or woman trusts in God, which will lead to a truly flourishing life.

**Proverbs 11:29**

 A. Bringing trouble home is to have a future of storms and trouble--- **Achan**---(Joshua 7:25-26)

 B. The foolish man or woman should expect to end up working for the wise man or woman.

**Proverbs 11:30**

 A. A righteous life bears fruit, and it gives life to others

 B. One of the greatest exercises of wisdom is to win souls to God and His kingdom.

**Proverbs 11:31**

 A. Often, we see something of the reward of righteousness in this world----A righteous life is a blessed life

 B. It is scary to consider how much more this will be true of the ungodly and the sinner!