

Sermon Text Discussion 2/26/2017

Proverbs 3: "The Good Life" by Drew Hunter

Overview

Our society seeks after "the good life." Proverbs 3 indicates what it is, describing it as having four marks.

1. Deep trust
2. True joy
3. Good sleep
4. Open hands

Quotations

"Sin is what you do when your heart is not satisfied with God. No one sins out of duty. We sin because it holds out some promise of happiness. That promise enslaves us until we believe that God is more to be desired than life itself." –John Piper, *Future Grace*

"If you are trusting Christ, and your life gets hard...the Lord might be disciplining you." -Drew Hunter

"Your sleeplessness can wake you up to idolatry in your heart." -Drew Hunter

Understanding & Application

- 1) Proverbs 3:5-6 are well known verses. Had you ever considered the context of Proverbs 3:1-12 as further explaining those verses? (Trust God's word [3:1-4]; trust God in temptation [3:5-8]; trust God in prosperity [3:9-10]; trust God in hard times [3:11-12].)
- 2) Is the perspective of 3:13-15 (part of the mark of deep trust) necessary for 3:27 (part of the mark of open hands)? Discuss the relationship of these two sets of verses.
- 3) Drew challenged us to consider what an objective look at our finances would reveal about our priorities. See 3:9-10. What are some ways in which you honor God with the wealth he has entrusted to you? What are some areas in which he might be calling you to grow in this aspect of wisdom?
- 4) The writer of Hebrews provided some commentary on Proverbs 3:11-12. Read this passage in Hebrews 12:3-17. How does Hebrews 12:3-4 help us fulfill Proverbs 3:11-12? Notice the "therefore" in Hebrews 12:12. What are some practical applications of the wisdom of Proverbs 3:11-12?
- 5) Consider the quote above about sleeplessness and idolatry. Has this been true, or is it true, in your life? What is the remedy according to Proverbs 3:21-26?
- 6) What needs to happen in order for steadfast love and faithfulness to be written on the tablets of our hearts (3:3)? Are there actions we should take toward this becoming true of us? What is the relationship between the message of Proverbs 2 and the message of Proverbs 3?