

A Good Name

Description

Proverbs 22:1-9

Often in Scripture, words such as foolish, wicked, and unwise refer to those who do not follow God and His laws. Biblical connotations for these words are not necessarily the same as our 21st-century definitions. We find this true in our passage from Proverbs today. The wise person follows God's laws, while the unwise live in ungodly ways.

We know verse 9 to be true and give that truth mental assent, but our day-to-day lives often demonstrate a different truth. Wisdom is more desirable than riches and gold. Do we really believe that? Would you choose five million dollars or wisdom and a good reputation? Would the choice be a struggle? We often desire wealth and do almost anything to get it.

Wealth is not always money and material possessions; it also includes character, respect, a good name, and our reputation. When we have these things, Scripture would consider us wealthy people. What satisfaction does material wealth bring if a good reputation, respect for others, and integrity do not accompany it?

Again, in the passage today, God calls us to value integrity, practice wisdom, be diligent, and live generously, knowing these principles lead to a life blessed by God.

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