

1 The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, even the prophecy: the man spake unto Ithiel, even unto Ithiel and Ucal, 2 Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man. 3 I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy. 4 Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell? 5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. 6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. 7 Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die: 8 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: 9 Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain. (Proverbs 30:1-9)

We are coming quickly to the end of Proverbs. This section (Proverbs 30) will be covered in three parts - then the final chapter which is full of beauty. It may occur to some that these commentaries of the Proverbs are often related to civil government as well as personal conduct. Some timid souls may believe that I meddle too much in political government in my remarks. To those souls, I will say the Christian never removes the mantle of faith whether at the bar of justice, inside the voting booth, at political rallies, or anywhere else. He is first a Christian, and only secondarily a citizen of a civil government. The U. S. constitution was designed to protect religion FROM civil government, not civil government from religion. This is the clear meaning and intent of the wording of the Articles thereof themselves notwithstanding the semantic word-games of a corrupt Federal Judiciary. So why do the Proverbs apply so profoundly to our present age? It is because we in America have forgotten knowledge and wisdom. "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." (Prov 29:18) "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children." (Hosea 4:6) To those who fear to speak out against governmental violations against virtue and morals, I have no comment. May your eyes be opened ere the Judgment. I speak to those who take the Word of God in all seriousness.

1 "The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, even the prophecy: the man spake unto <u>Ithiel</u>, even unto <u>Ithiel</u> and <u>Ucal</u>." Though the credit line goes to Agur, we may rest

assured that they are the Proverbs of Solomon just as John's Gospel is the Gospel of Christ. Solomon, being wise, may have recognized the value and included them in his Book of Proverbs, or, as the Talmud suggests, Agur could have been another name for Solomon. The other names of Ithiel and Ucal are unknown barring any reliance on non-canonical sources.

2" Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man. 3 I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy." The writer speaks out of a deep sense of humility, I believe, though there are others who believe these verses accurately define the lack of wisdom of the author. I do not believe so because all that he writes later in the chapter is full of wisdom. Compared to God, we are all brutish in our knowledge and wisdom - even Solomon. It seems that wisdom came as a gift of God to Solomon - not acquired only through knowledge and experience. Neither Solomon, nor you, or I, have an accomplished knowledge of the Holy. Point me to the coordinates of the Throne of God if you are able; or tell me the appearance of God's countenance. If you can tell me neither, than you know very little about God. We only have God's Word as recorded, and His Word as manifested in His only Begotten Son, to know God. But there is so much more mystery to God to which man is not privy. Let it be said that we know as much as God would have us know if we study diligently and seek His face.

4 "Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?" We have no record of any man ascending to heaven and returning to live among us. There is only One who has descended down from Heaven and who has ascended up to Heaven - the Lord Jesus Christ. "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) (Eph 4:8-10) All of the books of fantasy and sensation, designed to satisfy the itching ear, are worth no more than the cheap paper upon which they are written.

Ninety Minutes is Heaven is a fraud, and so are all others that purport to have visited heaven and returned. The scriptures are too full of evidence to the contrary to enumerate here, but if any need empirical evidence further, please let me know. Why do so many, seeking some new popular notions, abandon the sure foundation of scripture to study some work written for profit? Have we become so fickle as to abandon a sure truth for a popular lie? This verse goes on to ask some very meaningful questions. Who has either descended or ascended? Who can gather the winds in His fist? Who can establish the waters as a garment for the earth and establish their tidal limits? Who has, at Creation, established all of the earth - every hidden crevice and pearl at the bottom of the sea? Do you know His Name? Do you know His Son's Name, for they were both present, along with the Holy Ghost, at Creation? Hopefully, we will all know His Son's Name, at least.

Here follows a profound truth for our day! 5" <u>Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.</u>" If EVERY WORD is pure, where do men, posing as scholars, get the credentials to change a single word or line in the proliferating new and apostate bibles. Who gave them charge to change the "only Begotten Son" of God to the "one and only Son" in the NIV and other atrocious and kindred translations? (see NIV, ESV, New World Translation of Jehovah Witnesses, RSV, NRSV, Living bible Paraphrase, etc). To change that wording makes God to be a

liar when He assures us that we, too, are the sons and daughters of God; and it places Christ on a par with sinful man. EVERY WORD means EVERY WORD is pure and not subject to manipulation by so-called scholars or proud higher critics (they are actually as near the bottom of the barrel as possible without winding up in China.)

6 "Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." The fires of Hell are reserved to all who add to, or take away from, the Word of God. God provides dire warning in His last Words of Inspiration to us: "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." (Rev 22:18-19) A few verses to check in your Bible if you have not a KJV, or Geneva Bible - Matthew 17:21, Matthew 23:14, Mark 9:44 & 46, & John 3:16 to name only a few of the egregious changes made in the error-laden new versions. No man can boast of the education or knowledge of God, but that does not prevent the proud and the hypocritical from trying to present themselves so. "For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged." (Romans 3:3-4)

7 "Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die." This may seem presumptuous of one who prays before God, but be aware that the one praying knows God very well and has known His Word and His wisdom. What he asks will surely be in the Lord's Will to grant. Do we pray with a like conviction? There are actually six requests, and six reasons for the request, in the PRESNT AND following verses: "7 Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die: 8 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me"

SIX REQUESTS:

- 1) Deny not my petitions before I die;
- 2) Remove vanity far from me;
- 3) Remove lies far from me;
- 4) Give me not poverty;
- 5) Give me not riches (have you heard that one prayed lately?); and,
- 6) Feed me only with food necessary for me.

Can you see that the author pleads for these before he dies? Why does he? Because each Christian is being sanctified day by day. It is our final state that establishes our eternal relationship with God. If we receive those things which the Lord knows is our most beneficial food, then we shall be as strong and healthy as need be to die in faith.

SIX REASONS FOR THE REQUESTS:

1) Lest I be full. When we are full and fat, we lose our vigor and interest in the things of God. 2) Lest I deny the Lord because of plenty. 3) Lest I say, who is the Lord? When we have all earthly riches, we do not feel the need to call upon God. We are satisfied in our opulence. 4) Lest I be poor. Poverty tempts men to steal as the next reason stipulates. 5) Lest I steal, lie, and cheat. and, 6) Take the name of God in vain. This is a great sin of the present day. Men pray for riches in God's name. They pray for power. They pray for revenge, and they pray without devotion to the name they claim. When we recite the

communal prayer, "Our Father" how deeply do we contemplate the name of the One to whom we make our petition, and the meaning of the words of our petition. Do we truly desire that His Kingdom come? Do we pray for HIS Will to be done, or do we pray that our own will be done? Do we pray for more than the needs of the coming day? Do we desire our sins be forgiven in the same way that we forgive the trespasses of others against us? Do not take the Name of the Lord in vain either in prayer, or in careless language.

There is no better way to learn wisdom than through an inspired teacher. Solomon was directly inspired of God to provide us these proverbs. How much better if we learn these words and place them on permanent deposit in our hearts to guide our actions rather than going through life as a fool and learning wisdom from the hard teacher of experience?