THE DOING THAT SHOULD NOT BE DONE

**DATE: 7/12/2015 pm**

**TEXT: Proverbs 6:1-19**

**INTRODUCTION**

There are some things that should be done

We should love the Lord with all our Heart / Might

We should live in complete obedience to His Word

We should be living by Faith

There are more things than can be named that should be done

… However, not all that is done *should be* done

These verses deals with

**“The Doings that Should Not be Done”**

**Chap. 4:7** declares – ***“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding”***

**Quote:** Lockyer says that wisdom in the Biblical sense, is the *“ability to judge correctly and to follow the best course of action, based on knowledge and understanding”*

An understanding based on the Word of God

Not many follow this way of thinking today

Many are Doing what should not be Done

This chapter has several practical areas in which wisdom gives good common sense counsel

Let’s stand to read God’s Word, then pray and think on that thought

Read **vs. 1-19**

**~~~Prayer~~~**

The first Warning is against …

**I. SURETYSHIP - vs. 1-5**

That is, making oneself liable for someone else's debt in case that other person is unable to pay

We call it co-signing today

Suppose your friend wants to buy a car on the installment plan but doesn't have much of a credit rating

The Bank demands the signature of someone who can pay in case the borrower defaults

A family member / friend comes to you and asks you to cosign for him

This means that you will pay if he doesn't

The *“****stranger”*** might be the Bank to which you give your guarantee

**A. The Warning**

**1.** Do not become surety for someone

**2.** That is, do not make yourself liable for someone else's debt

**3.** If you have made a verbal agreement, try to get out of it as quickly as possible

It’s better not to commit in any way

**4.** If necessary, humble yourself and plead

It’s against our old nature to beg!

Showing how important it is not to cosign

**5.** The warning is repeated in **Proverbs 11:15; 17:18**

***“He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure”***

***“A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friend”***

**B. The Reason**

**1.** It may seem like a kindness to cosign for someone, but there are reasons it may not be

**a.** You might be helping him to buy something which it is not God's will for him to have

**b.** You might be encouraging him to be a spendthrift or even a gambler

**c.** If he defaults and you have to pay, your relationship may end and bitterness follow

**d.** Why isn’t his credit good? Red flag!

**Proverbs 22:27 – *“If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?*”**

**2.** If you can, it is better to just simply give the money

**Matthew 5:42 – *“Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away”***

We need to be good stewards of the money God has given us

**“SURETYSHIP”**

**II. “SLUGGARDS” – vs. 6 – 11**

We don’t use the term *sluggard* to much today

A *slug* is a very slow-moving, slimy creature

The term *slug* is used to describe a person who is slow to exert himself

So a *sluggard* is equivalent to someone who is lazy; unmotivated, and un-disciplined

The ant is just the opposite

Solomon's interest in the ant centered on the creature’s work ethic and on the fact that ants do not have to be forced to work

Ants are just the opposite of slugs

They are an example of industry

They do not need someone to make sure they get up in the morning and fulfill their appointed tasks

Let the sluggard consider that!

The ant works without force

Scripture gives us an example of industry – Why?

To inspire and instruct us to be industrious / hard workers

**A. The Example – vs. 6-8**

**1.** The Picture **– v.6**

***“Go to the ant, thou sluggard”***

The ant is an excellent illustration

Its *insignificance* is a rebuke someone

Despite its size, they get the work done

**2.** The Problem **– v.7**

The problem today is that most people need someone to stay on top of them to get things done

***“Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler”***

The ant needs no motivator

The sluggard does

One of the keys to success is self-motivation

The problem today is that most people need someone on top of them 24/7

**Proverbs 14:23 *– “In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury”***

**3.** The Prudence **– v.8**

***“Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest”***

The ant works *without fail*

**a.** The Season

***“Gathereth her food in the harvest”***

Timely / Prepared / organized

This is foresight, thinking ahead, diligence, responsibility

The ant knew that to wait until winter to prepare its food would be too late

The ant prepared ahead

It thinks ahead

Most people lack this sort of wisdom

Most people will die and go to hell because they never think about preparing for eternity

**b.** The Sweat

***“Provideth her meat... gathereth her food”***

They are not afraid of *hard work*

**Genesis 3:19** – ***“In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread”***

Providing and gathering is hard work

If you have ever watched an ant in an ant hill you know they are not afraid of hard work

Sluggards don’t want to work hard

It seems they are allergic to sweat

**c.** The Stewardship

 **“*Gathereth her food in the harvest”***

Harvesting during harvest is using your *opportunities* wisely

It is the farmer's philosophy *to make hay while the sun shines*

And a blacksmith's philosophy *to strike the iron while it is hot*

The welfare program of our nation does not practice these wise philosophies but encourages people to be sluggards

**Quote:** A democratic economist, John Galbraith, who has held high posts in the government, said, *Those who dislike working should not be forced to work nor should they be penalized by depriving them of the benefits of society.*

Such thinking is stupidity

By–the-way thinking that Washington or Albany is the answer to all our problems …

Would be like rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic

The Bible teaches a far different and far better philosophy

**II Thessalonians 3:10 *– “For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat”***

**Proverbs 19:15 *– “Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger”***

**B. The Exhortation – vs. 9 – 11**

The old nature just doesn’t like to exert itself

Therefore we are urged strongly not to be taken by it

**1.** Plea **– v.9**

***“How long wilt thou sleep, Ο sluggard?”***

Laziness/sloth is often seen in excessive sleeping

Those who get up late often lack industry

**2.** Problem – **v.10**

***“Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep”***

Though he has had plenty of sleep, the slothful pleads for more

**3.** Poverty **– v.11**

***“So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man”***

The idea of ***“one that travelleth”*** is that of our

Laziness catching up with us

The metaphor of ***“an armed man”*** likely is that of someone desperate enough to turn to robbery

The greater idea is that laziness, a short-sighted live-for-today, enjoy thyself now philosophy inevitably leads to poverty and desperation

Wisdom cries …

**Ecclesiastes 9:10 – *“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with (all) thy might;”***

**Colossians 3:23 – *“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;”***

**“SURETYSHIP”**

**“SLUGGARDS”**

**III. “SCOUNDRELS” – vs. 12-19**

… Is a dishonorable or unprincipled person

The Bible calls them ***“A naughty person, a wicked man”***

According to the Bible here …

These are the people that gossip and sow discord

Always stirring up trouble, they never know enough to keep their mouth shut!

**Proverbs 21:23** ***– “Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles”***

**A. The Scoundrel – vs. 12-15**

The phrase ***“a naughty person”*** literally means *a man of Belial* or a *worthless person*

**II Corinthians 6:15 *– “And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?”***

The word ***“wicked”*** means *injurious* and is derived from a word meaning *the breaking up of all that is good*

If something is good, they don’t like it, and they have to ruin it

**1.** His ‘Deeds’ –**vs. 12, 13**

When looking at a Scoundrel’s Deeds, we see 2 things

We first heard ...

**a.** His ‘Mouth’ **– v.12**

***“A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth”***

**Humor:** Being Worthless you could say they are *good for nothing*

The word ***“froward”*** means perverse / twisted

Always using half truths, innuendo etc.

Therefore the writer is talking about a *good-for-nothing who runs around shooting off his mouth*

The second thing we see is …

**b.** His ‘Manner’ **– v.13**

***“He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers;”***

Solomon picture’s a man who uses nods, winks, and gestures to communicate his wishes or intentions

Such a man uses what we would call *body language* to convey his thoughts

I knew a guy just like this and he turned out to be a Scoundrel

He was the spitting image of this description

The description of the wicked man's Deeds is followed by a description of …

**2.** His ‘Deceit’ **– v.14**

***“Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord”***

The basic idea in the word *“****frowardness”*** is that of disrespect and defiance

A *nobody’s-going-to-tell-me-what-to do* attitude

These people like to stir up trouble and sow discord, especially with what they say

They don’t care that, what they say and do messes up other people’s lives

I think of the old prophet who deceived the young

Prophet in **I Kings 13**

He messed up this young fella’s life for God

And all for what? Petty jealousy

Watch out! Look at …

**3.** His ‘Doom’ **– v.15**

***“Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy”***

The Bible says this type of person will be dealt with ***“suddenly”*** … won’t know what hit him / won’t see it coming

By **“calamity”** (a disastrous situation)

And there won’t be any ***“remedy”*** (a way of making it right)

**B. The Saviour – vs. 16-19**

Solomon now shifts his attention

He still had more to say about the Scoundrel

But wants to say it with special reference to the Saviour

The Lord's absolute Holiness places Him unswervingly on the side of right and against all wrong

The fact that we do not always see His hand visibly at work dealing with wrongs, does not mean for a moment that He does not care

He cares much more than we know

Nor does it mean that He does not act

He acts decisively, but other factors enter into the equation … His compassion, His patience, His infinite grace, His wisdom, and the prayers of His people

**1.** The ‘Exclamation’ **– v.16**

***“These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him:”***

We see the Saviour's attitude toward wickedness

The phrase ***“yea, seven are an abomination”*** is characteristic of emphasis

The expression implies that the list is not exhaustive

**2.** The ‘Explanation’ – **vs. 17-19**

The Bible tells us God ***“Hates”*** what He is about to describe

He calls them ***“Abomination”*** – means *something of intense dislike or disapproval; something that is immoral, disgusting and shameful*

Pretty strong Language?

First is …

**a.** ***“A proud look”*** **– v.17a**

All men are afflicted by pride of heart

But those who wear a prideful demeanor are disgusting to God

We use a similar expression when we speak of a person *looking down his nose* at someone else

Pride is the father of all sin

The proud look is scornful and contemptuous

The look of a person who imagines himself to be better than others

This is exactly what Satan did when he eyed up God’s throne

Yet, The Lord Jesus looked down from His throne in compassion and grace and humbled Himself

**b.** ***“a lying tongue”* – v.17b**

God hates a dishonest tongue

A tongue given to open lying

All men are afflicted with a deceitful heart

But those who openly spread lies are abhorrent to God

Lying is the defining characteristic of Satan

**John 8:44 *- “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it”***

He is the author of all untruth

The ultimate source of all religious, philosophical, scientific, social, economic, and political error

On –the- other –Hand …Jesus is the Truth

It is impossible for Him to lie

He told the truth to Caiaphas knowing it would cost Him His life in **Matt. 26**

Pilate tried to fend off the growing feeling that he was the one who was really on trial by asking Jesus - ***“What is truth?”***

Even while staring *it* in the face in **John 18**

**c. *“hands that shed innocent blood”* – v.17c**

God hates the hands of those who shed innocent blood

One can only imagine how God views abortionists

Woe unto to them when they meet their Maker

We just read that Satan ***“was a murderer from the beginning”*** in **John 8**

Little did Eve realize, as she listened to the serpent's lies that her firstborn son would grow up to be a murderer

Since then, gruesome murders are committed out of malice, spite, envy, and greed

We think of the blood shed in atrocities, persecutions, repressions, rebellions, and holocausts

We think of the blood shed in the name of war

And the end of all bloodshed is not yet come

John foretold that when the winepress of God's wrath is poured out, blood will come out of the winepress …

 ***“even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs”* – Rev. 14:20**

This distance is roughly two hundred miles

But turn your eyes from the murderer's hands and look at the hands of Jesus

They were placed in blessing on the heads of little children

Those hands gave sight to the blind

At their touch leprosy fled and the dead arose

His hands fed the hungry multitude, restored the severed ear of Malchus, and provided the precious blood that cancels all our sin

His hands still bear the imprint of the Roman nails

And will forever be a reminder

**d. *“An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations”* – v.18a**

All men are prone to sin

**Jeremiah 17:9 *– “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”***

But God particularly loathes those who purposefully plan evil schemes

***“deviseth”*** – *to conceive an idea*

Adam lived long enough to see what his sin had done to the human race

**Genesis 6:5 – *“every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually”***

Satan gloats over the depravity of man

The depraved heart is seen today, for example, in people who publish, peddle, and purchase pornography

They are an abomination in the sight of God

In contrast to the condition of the wicked heart …

The heart of the Lord Jesus is pure, holy, and undefiled

**Hebrews 7:26 – *“For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;”***

**II Corinthians 5:21 *– “For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him”***

**e. *“feet that be swift in running to mischief”* – v.18b**

The word ***“mischief”*** refers to evil

God hates the feet of those who are swift in running to evil

Satan ran swiftly to cause trouble for Job

When Satan appeared before God to give an account of himself,

The Lord asked in **Job 1:7 -** ***“Whence comest thou?”***

Satan replied – ***“From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it”***

Clearly he was up to no good

Asked if he had taken note of Job and his integrity

Satan immediately slandered him

Given permission to destroy Job's wealth, Satan wasted no time – ***“swift”***

In contrast, the feet of the Lord Jesus always brought Him swiftly to where He could help and heal

Back and forth He went—north and south, east and west—always seeking out the diseased, the downtrodden, and the distressed

To help, Not hurt!

**f. *“A false witness that speaketh lies”* – v.19a**

Of particular disgust to God are those who give perjurious testimony

Those who have sworn to tell the truth in court and then lie on the record …

… Is something which God hates

Satan tried to use false witnesses to secure the death of Christ, Stephen and I’m sure others

In contrast to a dishonest witness, the Bible says in **Rev. 1:5** that Jesus is ***“the faithful witness”***

**g. *“he that soweth discord among brethren”* – v. 19b**

Finally, what is particularly abominable to God is when one causes discord between brethren

The thought is of someone causing strife between those who had formerly been at peace

Someone who stirs up trouble amongst friends is an abomination to God

Satan the meddler stirred up Cain against Abel, Ishmael against Isaac, Esau against Jacob, and the sons of Jacob against Joseph

Jesus, on the other hand, is the healer of broken homes, the reconciler of estranged brethren, the Prince of Peace

**“SURETYSHIP” “SLUGGARDS” “SCOUNDRELS”**