

Whoever Keeps the Commandment Keeps His Life**Proverbs 19**

1. SOME HIGHLIGHTS: Several themes that we have observed over recent weeks continue in this chapter:

a. Wealth is _____ but not of _____ value .

Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity
than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool. (19:1)
Wealth brings many new friends,
but a poor man is deserted by his friend. (19:4)

b. Love for _____ requires love for _____.

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD,
and he will repay him for his deed. (19:17)

c. Don't be a _____.

The sluggard buries his hand in the dish
and will not even bring it back to his mouth. (19:24)

2. WISDOM IS POSSIBLE: The book of Proverbs constantly speaks as though wisdom is possible and accessible, without any _____ about this being a _____ burden. Indeed, quite the opposite: wisdom is clearly set forth as the way of life and _____.

Whoever keeps the commandment keeps his life;
he who despises his ways will die. (19:16)

a. The possibly anxious question: who is the one who “_____ the _____”?

b. In Christ, the Wisdom of God was made _____, kept the commandments _____,
and lived a perfectly _____ life on our behalf (1 Corinthians 1:30).

c. But this does not mean that the book of Proverbs is legalistic, and simply points to a need for the future work of Christ (as though Proverbs is just a rocket's booster stage that falls away once the payload is in orbit). Rather, it is – and _____, from the beginning – the life-giving _____ of Christ that we hear speaking in Proverbs.

The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of old. (8:22)

d. The resurrection of Christ proclaims the good news that God gives us the _____ of wisdom described in Proverbs as a gracious _____.

The fear of the LORD leads to life,
and whoever has it rests satisfied;
he will not be visited by harm. (19:23)

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (Colossians 3:1)

e. Because we have been raised with Christ, _____ who “keep the commandments” (19:16), who have the “fear of the LORD” that leads to life (19:23), who do genuinely good works (Lord's Day 24, 32).

f. In Christ, you are “_____” (Colossians 1:10).