"THE BLESSINGS OF DOING RIGHT"

(It Pays to be Righteous!)

Proverbs 10 - 11

INTRODUCTION:

God's "blessings are upon the head of the righteous" (Prov. 10:6).

*It pays to do right!

What are the benefits of doing right?

I. A Sweet MEMORY (10:7)

II. A Fruitful LIFE

A. The fruit of your words (10:11)

B. The fruit of your work (10:16)

C. The fruit of your witness (11:30)

III. A Fulfilled DESIRE (10:24; cp. 11:23)

IV. A Lasting STABILITY (10:25, 30; cp. 12:3)

V. A Glad TOMORROW (10:28)

VI. A Future DELIVERANCE (11:4, 6, 8, 9, 21)

VII. A Guided ROAD (11:5)

VII. A Blessed SOCIETY (11:10, 11; cp. 14:34)

IX. A Present REWARD (11:31)

CONCLUSION:

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Illus: Song "Do Right"

See: Foster p. 20

Sample of what "righteousness" is -

Honesty - obeying the principle of truth
Purity - obeying the principle of holiness
Charity - obeying the principle of love

The devil would lead us to believe that:

--Because righteousness is not popular something must be wrong with it

--There is no fun in righteousness

--The good guy always loses

--It doesn't pay to do right, etc.

God's <u>blessings</u> are upon the head of the <u>righteous</u>" (Prov. 10:6).

***It pays to do right!**

What are the benefits of doing right?

I. A Sweet <u>MEMORY</u> (10:7)

"The name of the wicked will rot" - It's stench continues

When you think of Jezebel, Judas, Hitler, Haman, etc., what comes to your mind? Repulsive memories

But when you think of Abraham, Moses, David, Jeremiah, John, Paul, etc., what comes to your mind?

II. A Fruitful <u>LIFE</u>

A. The fruit of your <u>words</u> (10:11)

Words can either refresh, or destroy . . .
revive or kill

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue" (Prov. 18:21)

B. The fruit of your <u>work</u> (10:16)

"Labor" - i.e. the reward of labor

"Fruit" - i.e. reward or wages

The righteous man's financial prosperity, etc., is wisely invested to produce life for others; whereas the wicked's filthy lucre is used for sin.

C. The fruit of your witness (11:30)

"Tree of life" - a symbol of eternity (Cp. Gen. 2:9, 3:22; Rev. 22:2)

The harvest reaped by the righteous lasts forever!

III. A Fulfilled DESIRE (10:24; cp. 11:23)

That which the wicked man feared most eventually falls upon him, but that which the righteous desired most will be granted (cp. V. 22)

cp. 10:22

Psalm 145:16, 19 - "Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing."

Psalm 37:4 - "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart"

IV. A Lasting STABILITY (10:25, 30; cp. 12:3)

"The righteous is an everlasting foundation" = "has"

Cp. with Psalm 1:3-4

V. A Glad TOMORROW (10:28)

The righteous man's "hope" (confidence) and the wicked man's "expectation" are contrasted.

VI. A Future DELIVERANCE (11:4, 6, 8, 9, 21)

God is faithful to deliver the "seed" (posterity, offspring) of the righteous (cp. Lot, Noah, and his family - II Pet. 2:4-9)

The "day of wrath" - In the day of God's wrath, money will be worthless (Is. 2:20-21 - "In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; to go into the clefts of the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when He ariseth to shake terribly the earth.")

VII. A Guided ROAD (11:5)

The will of God is automatically the lot of those who simply do what is right.

VIII. A Blessed SOCIETY (11:10, 11; cp. 14:34)

Prov. 14:34 - "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

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