

PROVERBS: LESSON 4

(Jerry Fite)

INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 6 presents four more discourses of wisdom to the inexperienced son.

I. WARNINGS AGAINST BEING SURETY FOR ANOTHER (6:1-5)

- A. Wisdom's insight: Inconsiderate and hasty promises will ensnare you (v.1-2).
- B. Wisdom's advice: Earnestly strive to deliver yourself from being a surety for your neighbor (v.3-5).

II. THE WAYS OF THE SLUGGARD ARE CONDEMNED (6:6-11)

- A. The prudent ways of the ant are commended to the sluggard (v.6-8).
- B. The ways of the sluggard certainly end in poverty (v.9-11).

III. WARNINGS AGAINST DECEIT AND MALICE (6:12-19).

- A. The despicable man is the deceitful person who thinks upon ways to harm others and is involved in disrupting unity (v.12-14).
- B. Calamity and destruction is the retribution for the deceitful and malicious person (v.15).
- C. Pride, deceit, murder, sinful planning, malicious deeds, and disrupting unity among brethren are seven things God hates (v.16-19).

IV. WARNINGS AGAINST ADULTERY BY CONSIDERING THE CONSEQUENCES (6:20-35).

- A. The parents' commandments are a son's constant companion and source of life (v.20-23).
- B. Following wise instruction fortifies a son from the seductive words and lustful beauty of the adulteress (v.24-25).
- C. Consequences that face the adulterer:
 - 1. Ruin of precious life (v.26).
 - 2. Inescapable punishment (v.27-33).
 - 3. Unreasonable passion of a jealous husband (v.34-35).

QUESTIONS:

1. What does one become when he is a surety for a neighbor?
2. What **three** things characterize the earnestness one should have in freeing oneself from suretyship?
3. Who is the sluggard?
4. How is the ant a good example for the sluggard to observe?
5. What is meant by, "poverty comes as a robber and want is an armed man" upon the sluggard?
6. What do "winking the eye," "shuffling the feet," and making signs with the fingers" all have in common?
7. In God's eyes, is sowing discord among brethren hated less than murder?
8. What **three** needs of life will the company of wisdom satisfy?
9. How should one view the commandments from true wisdom?
10. Beware: Flattery may come from an _____ woman.
11. What is lost that is "precious" when one commits adultery?
12. Why is the consequence of adultery more demanding in its punishment than that of a thief?
13. Give an example of the following structures of proverbs found in chapters 4-6:
 - a. Completive:
 - b. Synonymous:
 - c. Simile:

d. Numerical: