

Solomon Contrasts the Righteous and the Wicked

1. Distinguishing characteristics

a. Characteristics of a righteous man

i. He is known by the way he **speaks**.

- a) His mouth is a well of life (10:11).
- b) His tongue is as choice silver (10:20).
- c) His lips feed many (10:21).
- d) His mouth brings forth wisdom (10:31).
- e) His lips know what is acceptable (10:32).
- f) He knows when to keep his mouth shut (11:13).
- g) His mouth will deliver him (12:6).
- h) He thinks before he speaks (15:28).

ii. He is known by his **work**.

- a) His labor tends to life (10:16).
- b) He is guided by integrity (11:3).
- c) She is industrious (31:13).

iii. His is known by his of **justice**.

- a) He enjoys justice (21:15).
- b) He goes in the righteous way (11:5) and not evil (16:17).
- c) He only desires good (11:23).
- d) His thoughts are right (12:5).

iii. He is known by His attitude toward **God**.

- a) He fears the LORD (14:12).
- b) He looks to God for his defense (18:10).

iv. He is known by the ways he treats **others**.

- a) He is kind to animals (12:10).
- b) He tells the truth (12:17) and hates lying (13:5).
- c) He will leave an inheritance to his children's children (13:22).
- d) He is generous, especially toward the poor (21:26; 29:7).

v. His qualities come out in the way he **lives**.

- a) He prospers (15:6).
- b) He is bold (28:1).
- c) He sings and rejoices (29:6, 18).
- d) She is trustworthy (31:11, 12).

b. Characteristics of a wicked man

i. He can be identified by his **deeds**.

- a) He entices people to sin (1:10).

- b) He entraps innocent people (1:11).
 - c) He sheds innocent blood (1:16).
 - d) Doing evil gives him pleasure (2:14).
 - e) He likes to trick and deceive (6:13; 11:19).
 - f) He is always planning mischief (6:14).
 - g) He sows discord (6:14).
 - h) He is cruel (12:10).
 - i) He is violent (13:2)
- ii. He is known for the way he **speaks**.
 - a) He speaks of evil things (2:12).
 - b) He speaks of violence (10:6, 11).
 - c) His speech is perverted (10:32).
 - d) His speech overthrows his city (11:11).
 - e) His mouth pours out evil things (15:28).
 - f) His counsel is deceitful (12:5).
- iii. He can be detected by his **values**.
 - a) He is greedy and seeks ill-gotten gain (1:13, 19).
 - b) He pursues evil even to his own death (11:19).
 - c) He hates reproof (12:1).
 - d) He covets the catch of evil men (12:12).
- iv. He is known by his attitude toward **God** and His **people**.
 - a) He despises the LORD (14:2).
 - b) He is rebellious (17:11).
 - c) He lies in wait against the righteous (24:15, 16).
 - d) He hates the upright (29:10).
- v. He is known by the way he views **justice**.
 - a) He gives heed to false lips (17:4).
 - b) He pays bribes to pervert judgment (17:23).
 - c) He scorns judgment (19:28).
 - d) His soul desires evil (21:10).
 - e) He is stubborn (21:29).
 - f) He plots to do evil (24:5).
 - g) He doesn't understand judgment (28:5).
 - h) He doesn't care about the poor (29:7).

2. The rewards of the righteous and the wicked

- a. The temporal rewards of the righteous
 - i. God **protects** him (2:8)
 - ii. God will bless his **home** (3:33).
 - iii. People will cherish his **memory** (10:7).

- iv. His **desire** will be granted (10:24).
 - v. He will be **fruitful** (12:12).
 - vi. He will be repaid for the **good** he does (13:21).
 - vii. He **enjoys** the food he eats (13:25).
 - viii. He will be **honored** in high places (16:13).
 - ix. His **children** will be blessed and will bless him (her) (31:28-31).
- b. The eternal blessings of the righteous
- i. His **hope** shall be gladness (10:28; 14:32).
 - ii. He will have a sure **reward** (11:18).
 - iii. He is a delight to **God** (11:20).
 - iv. He obtains **favor** of the LORD (12:2).
- c. The temporal recompense of the wicked
- i. God's **curse** is in his house (3:33).
 - ii. His way is darkness and he **stumbles** (4:19).
 - iii. He lays traps and gets **caught** in them (5:22).
 - iv. He continues to **lose** money (10:3).
 - v. The very thing he **fears** will come to pass (10:24),
 - vi. He will be **punished** in spite of collaborators (11:21).
 - vii. He will be **despised** (12:8; 13:5).
 - viii. His way is **hard** (13:15) -- Saul of Tarsus
 - ix. The king is **angry** against him (14:35).
 - x. The LORD is **far** from him (15:27).
- d. The eternal recompense of the wicked
- i. He is an **abomination** to God (3:32, 33).
 - ii. He will die without **instruction** (5:23).
 - iii. His **calamity** will come upon him suddenly (6:15).
 - iv. His name will **rot** (10:7).
 - v. He passes like a **whirlwind** (10:25).
 - vi. His years will be **shortened** (10:27).
 - vii. When he dies, his expectation will **perish** (11:7).
 - viii. People will rejoice when he **dies** (11:10).
 - ix. His expectation is **wrath** (11:23).
 - x. God will **condemn** him (12:2).