SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF

PROVERBS 16:1-8

Proverbs 16:1-8

- 1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.
- 2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.
- 3 Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.
- 4 The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

Proverbs 16:1-8

- 5 Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.
- 6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.
- 7 When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.
- 8 Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

- A. A contrast in the way of thinking (vv 1-2)
- B. A call to right thinking (v 3)
- C. A consequence for not following God (vv 3-5)
- D. The consequences for following God (vv 6-7)
- E. It all starts with something little (v 8)



F. Something little unresolved can cause bigger problems later on

James 5:9

Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

Matthew 5:25

Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

G. Something little acted on can cause bigger possibilities later on

Luke 17:6

And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

A. Because any sin makes us guilty before God James 2:10

For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

- B. Because any sin makes us not obey the truth Galatians 5:7-10
- 7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?
- 8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you.
- 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.
- 10 I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded: but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whosoever he be.

- C. Because harboring any sin makes us glorify ourselves instead of God
- 1 Corinthians 5:2, 6
- 2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.
- 6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

- D. We need to get rid of the sin
- 1 Corinthians 5:7
- Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

II. We Need To "Sweat" the "Little" Word

A. The power of a single word

Proverbs 25:11

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Hebrews 10:24

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

II. We Need To "Sweat" the "Little" Word

B. The problem of words

James 3:5

Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

Colossians 3:21

Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

III. We Need To "Sweat" the "Little" Opportunity

A. We need to realize that no opportunity is too small Galatians 6:10

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

III. We Need To "Sweat" the "Little" Opportunity

B. We need to realize that no action is too insignificant Mark 9:41

For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.

III. We Need To "Sweat" the "Little" Opportunity

C. We need to realize that God is watching Matthew 25:21

His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Control The Small Things Or The Small Things Will Control You