“Fools, Sluggards & Liars”

Intro: With all thanks to our ____________ we praise Him for the proverbs that are before us, realizing that through them He ____________ ____ of the shame that belongs to fools, sluggards and liars, and in so doing He turns us from that which displeases Him and our own destruction to that which glorifies Him and is for our benefit.

I. We learn of the Father’s wisdom in regard to _____ ________.

   A. While the fool does what is unfitting (sinful) ________ teaches us to deal with them as is wise and ______________.

   B. The Christian refuses to participate at the level of the fool but rather seeks to bring the fool ______________ to God and His wisdom. As God reached down to us to bring us higher so should we seek to bring the lost sinner upward to God by ________________ His truth in love, even if the truth must come as a rebuke.

   C. The wise people of God ________________ the frustration and harm that ________ when a fool is sent to relay a message.

   D. The wise show ________ only where honor is due. To show honor to a fool is to show dishonor to ________.

   E. The wise believer ________ those whom they know to be ________, knowing that to do otherwise will bring harm to all.

   F. A fool can be identified by his ________________ ________________ of sin.

   G. Pride (which God so despises) is the pinnacle of foolishness. There is no fool like the prideful fool. Yet, thanks be to God, if the fool will ________________ himself and pray, turning to Christ in faith believing, repentant of his sin, confessing his sin, ____________ will forgive him and ________________ him from all his unrighteousness.

II. We learn of the Father’s wisdom in regard to _____ ________________.
A. Those who are of Christ are to be busy about their __________ business. Having been transformed by the renewing of their minds they recognize the dangers and deceptions of laziness as opposed to the God-ordained blessings of diligent work. These find no need to make an excuse to escape work. Getting out of bed in the morning they find ______ at night. When they put their hand to the dish they return their hand to their mouth and are fed. Having seen themselves in the light of God’s Word they think rightly of themselves and others. These __________ ____!

III. We learn of the Father’s wisdom in regard to ____________

A. Through deception and meddling liars (fools) make ruin of their relationships. Having made enemies of their neighbor they will find their friends few. God our Father would have us to __________ our neighbors as ourselves, speaking the ___________ in love. This is the way of __________.

B. Those who hold contention in their heart whisper with their lips, first to spark strife and then to fuel. The wise of heart refuse to fuel contention through whispers but they __________ the __________ in love, and they do so openly.

C. _______________ the way of the wicked the wise do not follow but rather they follow after the righteous Lord in His way of truth and righteousness. Are you wise unto salvation? Have you trusted in ___________ ____ Savior and ________? Have you turned form the treachery of sin unto the victory of life?

D. The wise children of God, seeing through the deceptive pretenses of the wicked, looking past the facade to the fruit (result) of another’s life, __________ to be deceived by guile and taken in by ____________. Being made wise unto God, and wise unto salvation in Christ, and indwell by the Spirit, they _______ to test the spirits to see if they be of ________.

Closing: Let us be wise unto salvation, believing upon the Lord ___________ Christ, and then we will not suffer the end of the fool, the sluggard and the lair, but by the _________ ___ _________ we will be granted everlasting life where there is love, joy and peace.

See the Father’s love for us! He who gave His only begotten Son for us has not withheld any good thing for here He has told us of the terrible plight of the fool, the sluggard and the liar that we might turn to Him and live. Be wise – _____________ upon the Lord Jesus, for He is the Christ!