

TWO WAYS OF LIFE

By Dr. Gary M. Gulan, ©1986 (Rev. 96)

Lesson #4

Proverbs 1:15,31

Introduction: Throughout the book of Proverbs, two ways of life stand in contrast. This lesson seeks to expose the two ways in order to prepare you for the contents of the book of Proverbs.

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE TWO WAYS (What are the two ways of life?)

Solomon reveals paths or directions of life.

PATH #1: Related properly to the Lord

Proverbs 2:20 = way of a good man

Proverbs 3:23 = way of safety

Proverbs 4:11 = way of wisdom

Proverbs 6:23 = way of life

Proverbs 8:20 = way of righteousness

Proverbs 10:17 = way of life

Proverbs 10:29 = way of the Lord

PATH #2: Not related properly to the Lord

Proverbs 2:12 (4:14)= way of the evil man

Proverbs 4:19 (12:26) = way of the wicked

Proverbs 7:27 = way of hell

Proverbs 12:15 = way of a fool

Proverbs 13:15 = way of transgressors

Proverbs 14:12 (16:25) = way of death

Proverbs 22:5 = way of froward

2. DETECTING THE WRONG WAY (How would I know if I am on the wrong path?)

There are at least five tests that would indicate if someone was on the wrong path.

A. Proverbs 12:15 = Do you follow that which is right in your own eyes?

B. Proverbs 12:26 = How do you treat your neighbor?

C. Proverbs 14:12 (16:25; 21:2) = Do I fear the Lord and walk in uprightness?

D. Proverbs 19:3 = Do you fret against the Lord?

E. Proverbs 29:27 = Are those who follow the Lord viewed by you as detestable?

3. DEPARTING INTO THE WRONG WAY (How can I end up following the wrong path?)

There are at least five explanations for someone going down the wrong path in life.

A. Proverbs 15:10 = The right way can be forsaken.

B. Proverbs 16:29 = Others can entice and lead someone into a way that is not good.

C. Proverbs 19:3 = Foolishness can pervert one's way.

D. Proverbs 21:16 = One can wander out of the way of understanding.

E. Proverbs 28:10 = Others can cause the righteous to go astray in an evil way.

4. DANGER OF GOING THE WRONG WAY (What happens on the wrong path?)

When following the wrong path of life there are at least eight results.

A. Proverbs 10:29 = destruction

B. Proverbs 11:20 = a perverse heart

- C. Proverbs 12:28 = take a fall
- D. Proverbs 13:15 = life becomes hard.
- E. Proverbs 14:12 (16:25) = the end are the ways of death.
- F. Proverbs 15:9 = become an abomination
- G. Proverbs 22:5 = life contains thorns and snares.
- H. Proverbs 22:5 = God is against him

5. DELIGHTS OF FOLLOWING THE RIGHT WAY (What happens on the right path?)
When following the right path of life there are at least eight results.

- A. Proverbs 3:23 = walk safely
- B. Proverbs 10:29 = strength
- C. Proverbs 11:20 = delight
- D. Proverbs 12:28 = flourish
- E. Proverbs 15:9 = God's love
- F. Proverbs 16:17 = departure from evil
- G. Proverbs 16:17 = preservation
- H. Proverbs 16:31 = crown of glory

6. DEDICATION TO THE RIGHT WAY (How do I stay on the right path?)
There are at least seven ways of finding and staying on the right path.

- A. Proverbs 1:15 = avoid the "way" that will cause you to stumble
- B. Proverbs 5:8 = remove yourself from the "way" that will cause you to stumble
- C. Proverbs 9:6 = travel in the "way" of wisdom
- D. Proverbs 10:17 = keep and maintain instruction of wisdom
- E. Proverbs 15:9 = follow after righteousness
- F. Proverbs 16:9 = allow the Lord to direct your path
- G. Proverbs 16:17 = depart from the way when you know it is evil

Conclusion: There are two ways or walks to travel in life. It is easy to fall off or stray from the correct walk.

Proverbs by Sid S. Buzzell, in The Bible Knowledge Commentary, page 909

Proverbs by Allen P. Ross, in The Expositor's Bible Commentary, page 910