

Good Morning Belfield Baptist Church Family and Friends.

Church for September 13, 2020.

## **A Man's Thoughts or God's Standards**

### **Proverbs 21:1-3 Luke 16:15**

Many people make decisions based on what they think is right, instead of what God directs.

It is this type of person that the writer of Proverbs is concerned with and this is the type of person that we should be concerned about.

I. **A MAN'S THOUGHTS:** Let's think about the subject.

**1. Is it alright to do wrong if there are no serious consequences?** This is a question that is asked ever so often and which there are many answers. Words, actions, deeds, making fun)

Who can determine the consequences of wrong when it is committed? Many times, the consequences occur far down the way, long after the act. (Outside or inside the person)

It is easy to divide sin into categories based on our evaluation of the results. God makes no such distinction:

Gal 6:7: **Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.**

**2. IS IT RIGHT TO SIN AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T HURT ANYONE ELSE?** Can there be a more tragic victim than an individual bound to the slavery of desire?

Many people will say the same thing about the use of alcohol, drugs, etc. They use the excuse it doesn't hurt anyone else.

It might not hurt anybody else, overlooking the many that have been killed due to some drunk driver, but our bodies are the Temple of the

Holy Spirit. (If I am the only one harmed, God's creation has been harmed)

### **3. IS IT RIGHT TO SIN AS LONG AS WE DON'T GET CAUGHT?**

Does anyone ever go free? We trap ourselves. We are caught by conscience. We must live with ourselves and sometimes that is worst punishment.

### **4. IS IT RIGHT TO SIN AS LONG AS THE MAJORITY SUPPORT**

**IT?** How many times have we used the excuse, "Everybody is doing it, why can't I do it? Movies, books, drinking, sex, etc.

**Proverbs 21:2: Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the Lord pondereth the hearts.**

**The majority can be wrong, look at what the crowds did to Jesus.**

**II. THE STANDARD OF GOD:** Where would we be without standards or rules?

Life is full of standards. They are guides to teach the right relationship with our fellow man.

We do not resent them in life, why should we resent God having standards?

The Psalmist describes the standard of God: Psalm 119:11: **Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.**

We have the word of God as our standard, let us use it in the best way possible for ourselves and our fellow man.

Let's look at Proverbs 21:3 **To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.**

**What will it be in our lives? God's standards, or man's thoughts?**

As we move through the COVID-19, remember that God has a standard for each of us, LIVE IT.

Today, Sept. 13, as you pray, pray that God's standards will be followed in the churches today.

Pastor Larry Vickery

Cell: 701 260 5940

Email: [ldvickery@gmail.com](mailto:ldvickery@gmail.com)

**Facebook Page: Belfield Baptist Church**  
**Join us in the 9:30 Sunday Message on Facebook**  
**Web Page: [www.belfieldbaptist.com](http://www.belfieldbaptist.com)**