WHO SHOULD YOU NEVER TAKE ADVICE FROM?

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(Proverbs 12:5)

The people you take advice from will ultimately decide the quality of your future. It will indirectly decide what type of problems you will inherit, the successes you will have, the failures you will experience and the situations you will deal with. The people you take advice from should make your life **BETTER**, not bitter. Their advice should make you pursue excellence, not make excuses. Their advice should add peace, not stress.

The Bible encourages us to seek advice. However, make sure you are seeking the right person. Taking advice from the wrong person will cause you to go through tremendous hardship. When you are seeking righteous advice you **CANNOT** trust what you see with your eyes. You must trust your **DISCERNMENT**. The outward appearance is very misleading. If you make the decision to take advice from what **APPEARS** to be right you will be deceived. The devil can disguise himself as an angel of light. Anyone can put rat poison in a sirloin steak. An intelligent person can have a deceitful heart. A rich person can be a pathological liar. A preacher can be a religious Pharisee.

Keep this in mind.

DISCERN THE SOIL BEFORE YOU SOW INTO IT.

<u>NEVER TAKE ADVICE FROM</u> <u>THESE PEOPLE</u>

Proverbs 12:5

The Bible tells us not to take advice from **WICKED** people. Do not entertain their philosophy. Their advice may sound good. However, it will not help you become good. A bad tree cannot produce good fruit. **WICKED PEOPLE CANNOT GIVE RIGHTEOUS ADVICE**. Expecting something good from something bad will leave you in a disappointed state.

God commands you **NOT** to take advice from wicked people. Wicked people have the ability to be highly intelligent. However, if their intelligence is founded on the base of unrighteousness their advice will hurt you. The source of all intelligence comes from our capability of **LEARNING**.

The subject you decide to study will determine the substance of your intelligence. For example. If you **STUDY** the United States legal system your intelligence in how the legal system functions and operates will grow. If you **STUDY** the code of the street your intelligence about the street life will grow.

Wicked people understand how to prosper immorally. They master being deceptive. They master lying. They master manipulation. Wicked people start off doing the wrong thing, **EXPECTING** to end on the right road! When you listen to the advice of a wicked person they will lead you in the **WRONG** direction. Wicked people will never advise you to start off righteously because their philosophy is **NOT** built on righteousness. Their philosophy is built on wickedness. Here are three examples of how wicked people will advise you.

- Wicked people will encourage you to take revenge on someone who hurt you. They will NOT encourage forgiveness.
- Wicked people will tell you to do things that please your flesh.
- Wicked people will encourage you to do what you feel rather than obey God commands.

God commands us not to seek wicked counsel. The advice of wicked people will lead you down the wrong path. If you start going down the wrong path everything you do on that path will produce negative results. **WHAT YOU DO FIRST MATTERS**. How you start off matters.

Do not underestimate how you start off. What you do first will usually decide what will come second. If you **START** deceiving people you will keep lying to them. If you start lying to people you will keep hurting them. **DO NOT** take the advice of wicked people if you do not want to inherit trouble.

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