

STUDY GUIDE FOR THE WEEK OF: July 20, 2008

PROVERBIAL WISDOM

REV. GREG COOTSONA

WEEK 3 OF THE SERIES

“Created: Just, Right”

Proverbs 3:19-20; 11:10-11

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth;
by understanding he established the heavens;
by his knowledge the deeps broke open,
and the clouds drop down the dew.

When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices;
and when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.
By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted,
but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

Study Notes

As Jim Coons said so well in the sermon that opened this series, the Proverbs are “Wise observations about kingdom living, not guaranteed formulas for success.” They are indeed God’s wisdom for lives well-lived. In this case, we see the close connection between human flourishing as a society or **city (11:10, 11)**, and righteous action among the people. As the Scripture gives witness, God is just. “The Lord reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment. He will judge the world in righteousness; he will govern the peoples with justice. The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble” (Psalm 9:7-10). The Bible directs us to praise for God’s righteousness, for us to live with justice, and to hope for the day when God will bring it all to rights (Revelation 21).

Questions For Further Reflection

1. Do you sense that life is fair or just most of time? Where do you see justice or injustice around you?
2. Why do you think God want us to live lives of justice and wisdom?
3. There are many in our culture are treated unjustly. Who would you give as examples? How can we support those who are unjustly treated?
4. Where is God calling you as an individual, or us as a church, become more just and in our actions?