

I. Some Introductory Thoughts

- A. On the choice of topics
- B. On the selection of biblical materials
- C. On the manner of presentation
- D. On some definitions:
  - 1. Hurts
  - 2. Home
  - 3. Healing

II. Setting the Right Spiritual Foundation

Proverbs 1:1-7

I am not going to outline this formally...too much academia is a weariness to the flesh...and the mind, etc. But the foundation from which we work is fundamental to the solving of any problem. Lots of people want answers but are unwilling to establish the necessary grounds for obtaining the answers. What many want is solutions that cost nothing, require nothing, and yet do everything...a desire that is not easily fulfilled. The hurts of life and home and real in a personal sense and the healing of them is a practical, spiritual matter. But without the right foundation for this sort of activity we are powerless. With many texts in Proverbs, and you will think of others in other places, we work to set this right foundation.

A. The Fear of the Lord

Proverbs texts: 1:7; 9:10; 14:26-27; 15:33; 19:23; 23:17; 24:21, et al.

- 1. Definition: The respect and honor due the Lord in all circumstances of life.
- 2. The starting point: Belief and trust (3:5-6)
- 3. The continuing level: Consistent application of the truth of the Lord's Person to all the areas of life: speech, business, personal relations, learning, etc.
- 4. What is desired is an awareness and interest of the Lord in our affairs...and particularly in those of our homes.
- 5. Application: We learn to walk with our Lord

B. The Honor of His Word

Proverbs texts: 4:1-2; 4:20-22; 6:20ff; 7:23; 10:1; 13:1; 23:22; 28:7; 30:5

- 1. Definition: Accepting the authority and instruction of the Word of God as a guide for daily living.