

❧ 第三屆明道聖經講座 ❧
箴言書中的工作神學
華爾基博士 (Dr. Bruce K. Waltke)
(2006年5月19日)

第一部分：引言

I. 定義的問題

- A. 廣義的定義：「藉以完成某些必須之事的人類活動，有別於那些本身就能使人滿足的活動。」(Paul Marshall)
- B. 神學的定義：「付出精力(勞力或腦力，或兩者同時付出)服侍別人，為工作者本身帶來成就感，為社群帶來益處，為上帝帶來榮耀。」(John Stott, *Issues Facing Christians Today*, p.162)
- C. 箴言書的定義：「付出精力而獲得物質(即是我們所得的回報)。」

II. 這個語義範圍內的詞語

工作、勞動、苦幹、勤勉、職責、工業、聚斂、閒懶人
(以及這些詞語的變化)

III. 方法

- A. 按文理(上下文)：箴言十章2至5節
 - 1. 倫理(2節，憑公義獲得物質)
 - 2. 神學(3節，上帝所命定的規律)
 - 3. 應用神學(4節，靠工作獲得物質；5節，靠適時的工作)
- B. 按主題：「六何法」(我們已經回答了「何事」)
 - 1. 何人？ 2. 為何？ 3. 如何？

第二部分：主體

I. 何人？

- A. 上帝是我們的模範(箴三19-20)
 - 1. 過去(19節；比較創一章)
 - 2. 現在(20節；比較詩一二一3-4；約五17；西一17；來一3)
 - 3. 將來(啓二十一1-5；比較創三17-19)
- B. 男人
 - 1. 講述的對象：貴族、大臣、新進的官員
 - 2. 讀者群：所有人(箴十4)
- C. 女人(箴三十一10-31)
 - 1. 引言：一個尊貴而能幹的妻子為家庭工作(10-12節)
 - 2. 主體(13-27節)
 - a. 她的收入來源：家庭工業(13-18節)
 - b. 接縫／承上接下(19節)
 - c. 她的生產(20-27節)

- 3. 總結：兒女、丈夫、社群都稱讚她(28-31節)
- D. 有能力工作的人
造成貧窮和匱乏的那些情況，是他們所不能控制的，毋須感到內疚

II. 為何？

- A. 為了屬靈的好處：與上帝的關係
 - 1. 敬畏耶和華：對於上帝的客觀啓示出於畏怯而遵從(箴一7；十2-5及多處出現)
 - 2. 尊敬上帝(箴三9-10)
 - 3. 得免於遠離上帝的保護(箴三十7-9；二十八11)
- B. 為了肉身的好處
 - 1. 得免於飢餓的保障(箴十六26；二十13)
 - 2. 得免於不幸的保障(箴十15)
 - 3. 得免於奴役的保障(箴二十二7)
 - 4. 得免於貧困生活的保障(箴十二9)
- C. 為了心理的好處(箴二十六12-16；十五19)
- D. 為了社交的好處
 - 1. 得免於遠離父母的保障(箴十1-5；四3；六1-18，對比三種人，一種比一種差)
 - 2. 得免於遠離僱主的保障(箴十26)
 - 3. 得免於遠離家人的保障(箴十八9)
 - 4. 得免於遠離社會的保障(箴十四20-21)
- E. 為了得著智慧
 - 1. 智慧和公義是兩個共同指涉的詞語(箴一1-3；十1-5)
 - 2. 「公義」「服侍別人，不是服侍自己」
 - 3. 若要惠及別人，自己必須擁有財富；唯有靠著工作，才能夠公義地得到財富(弗四28；帖後三10)

III. 如何？螞蟻是我們的模範(箴六6-11)

- A. 「沒有元帥」：出於本性——內心(箴四23；西三22-24)
箴言這卷書，教人「怎樣成為……」，而不是教人「怎樣做」
- B. 「預備」：有耐性地(箴十二11；十三11)
- C. 「聚斂」：努力工作(箴十四23)
- D. 「在夏天」：有策略地(比較箴十4)(箴二十四27；二十七23-27)

第三部分：總結

- A. 關乎人的心(箴四24)
- B. 上帝的恩典(箴二十八13)
- C. 禱告(箴十六3)

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❧ **Ming Dao Bible Lecture III** ❧
Theology of Work in the Book of Proverbs

Dr. Bruce K. Waltke

(19 May 2006)

Part I: Introduction

I. The Problem of Definition

- A. Broad definition: “Human activity designed to accomplish something that is needed as distinct from activity that is satisfying in itself.” (Paul Marshall)
- B. Theological definition: “The expenditure of energy (manual or mental or both) in the service of others, which brings fulfillment to the worker, benefit to the community and glory to God.” (John Stott, *Issues Facing Christians Today*, p.162)
- C. Proverbs’ definition: “Energy expended for material gain (i.e., what we get paid for).”

II. Words in this semantic domain

Work, labor, toil, diligent, job, industry, gather, sluggard
(and variations of terms)

III. Method

- A. Contextual: Proverbs 10:2-5.
 - 1. Ethics (v.2 material gain by righteousness)
 - 2. Theology (v.3 God’s ordained order)
 - 3. Practical Theology (v.4 material gain by work; v.5 by timely work)
- B. Topical: Three of six little men (we already answered “what”).
 - 1. Who? 2. Why? 3. How?

Part II: Body

I. Who?

- A. God is the Model. (Prov. 3:19-20)
 - 1. Past. (v.19; Cf. Gen. 1).
 - 2. Present. (v.20; Cf. Ps. 121:3-4; John 5:17; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3)
 - 3. Future. (Rev. 21:1-5; Cf. Gen. 3:17-19)
- B. Men
 - 1. Narratees: nobility, courtiers, budding officials.
 - 2. Audience: every man. (Prov. 10:4)
- C. Women (Prov. 31:10-31)
 - 1. Introduction: A Noble and Competent Wife Works for the Home. (vv.10-12)
 - 2. Body. (vv.13-27)
 - a. Her Source of Revenue: cottage industry. (vv.13-18)

- b. Seam / Janus. (v.19)
 - c. Her Production. (vv.20-27)
 - 3. Conclusion: Children, Husband, Community Praise Her. (vv.28-31)
- D. Those capable of work.
Poor and destitute are victims of circumstances beyond their control and not to feel guilty.

II. Why?

- A. For spiritual well-being: relationship with God.
 - 1. To fear *I AM*: to obey out of awe God’s objective revelation. (Prov. 1:7; 10:2-5, *passim*)
 - 2. To honor God. (Prov. 3:9-10)
 - 3. Protection against alienation from God. (Prov. 30:7-9; 28:11)
- B. For physical well-being.
 - 1. Security against starvation. (Prov. 16:26; 20:13)
 - 2. Security against misfortune. (Prov. 10:15)
 - 3. Security against slavery. (Prov. 22:7)
 - 4. Security against an impoverished existence. (Prov. 12:9)
- C. For psychological well-being. (Prov. 26:12-16; 15:19)
- D. For social well-being.
 - 1. Security against alienation of parents. (Prov. 10:1-5; 4:3; 6:1-18, Contrast three progressively inferior types of men)
 - 2. Security against alienation of employer. (Prov. 10:26)
 - 3. Security against alienation of household. (Prov. 18:9)
 - 4. Security against alienation from society. (Prov. 14:20-21)
- E. For achieving wisdom.
 - 1. Wisdom and righteousness are co-referential terms. (Prov. 1:1-3; 10:1-5)
 - 2. “Righteous” “to serve others, not self”.
 - 3. To enrich others, one must himself possess riches, which can be obtained righteously only through work. (Eph. 4:28; 2 Thess. 3:10)

III. How? The ant is the model (Prov. 6:6-11)

- A. “No commander”: Out of one’s nature - heart. (Prov. 4:23; Col. 3:22-24)
Book of Proverbs: “How to Become Book”, not “How to Do Book”.
- B. “Stores”: Patiently. (Prov. 12:11; 13:11)
- C. “Gathers”: hard work. (Prov. 14:23)
- D. “In summer”: strategically (Cf. Prov. 10:4). (Prov. 24:27; 27:23-27)

Part III: Conclusion

- A. Matter of the Heart. (Prov. 4:24)
- B. God’s grace. (Prov. 28:13)
- C. Prayer. (Prov. 16:3)

~ The End ~