

THEME: WHO I AM IN CHRIST.

TOPIC: I AM SAFE.

TEXT: PROV. 1:20-33 (TPT); PSALM 121:7 (NIV); MATT. 11:28-29.

But the one who always listens to me will live undisturbed in a heavenly peace. Free from fear, confident and courageous, you will rest unafraid and sheltered from the storms of life. Proverbs 1:33 TPT

To really understand the above text, you need to read it in context. Wisdom is personified as a righteous woman calling out like a street vendor. The father warned his child not to ignore her advice. If wisdom called out and the child refused to listen, the child would one day call out, only to have wisdom refuse to hear him.

Safety is promised to those who listen to her but much of the passage is about those who do not listen.

1. Safety for Those Who Listen – Proverbs 14:26

God cried out to Israel promising blessing for obedience and judgement to those who refused, to pay heed to his voice. Then verse 33 says that wisdom promises safety and peace to those who will listen to her and believe.

Q: What about those who don't? It reminds one of talking to little children.

2. Who is wisdom talking to in the text (Proverbs 1:20-33)?

Wisdom speaks to the people in the streets and marketplace – to everyone. She speaks mainly to three classes of sinners:

- the simple ones
- the scorners (some versions say scoffers or mockers)
- the fools

Wiersbe Bible Commentary Defines the Simple, Scorners and Fools:

- The *simple* are naive people who believe anything but examine nothing. They're gullible and easily led astray.
- *Scorners* think they know everything and laugh at the things that are really important. While the simple one has a blank look, the scorners wear a sneer.
- *Fools* are people who are ignorant of truth because they're dull and stubborn. Their problem isn't a low IQ or poor education;
- Their problem is a lack of spiritual desire to seek and find God's wisdom.
- The outlook of fools is purely materialistic and humanistic.
- They hate knowledge and have no interest in things eternal.

3. How do the simple, the scorners, and the fools respond to Wisdom?

They refuse to obey her voice; they won't take hold of her outstretched hand; they laugh at her warnings; and they mock her words. Wisdom sees judgement coming that will bring distress and anguish to all who reject God's invitation.

- When God's judgement comes on all those who reject God's invitation, sinners will call upon the Lord but it will be too late. (**Isaiah 55:6**).
- Sinners will reap what they have sown. (**Proverbs 1:31**).
- They turned away their ears from hearing the truth and were complacently comfortable with believing lies (**2 Timothy 4:4**).
- In contrast to the judgment promised to unbelievers, wisdom promises security and peace to those who will listen to her and believe (**Proverbs 1:33**).

4. God is our Shelter – Psalm 121:7, Genesis 28:15

- He will keep 'You' from all Harm.
- He will watch over your Life.
- He will free you from fear – What kind of Fear is being referred to here?
- He will make you Confident and Courageous.
- You will be sheltered from the storms of life.

Q: What should our attitude be knowing that God is our Shelter?

Conclusion

Resting in Safety – Matthew 11:28-29

God wants to protect us. He wants us to pay attention and avoid disaster. Resting securely in God is the opposite of work or striving; it is found in relationship with God through Jesus. Resting in Him is peace, joy, healing and provision. Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Grow to have faith in His rest spending time in God's Word renewing your mind, little by little daily.

The Christian life is not a life of working anxiously but of safely dwelling in Him. As we dwell we become transformed into His image, being changed by His glory.