



Eternal PERSPECTIVE Proverbs

BIBLE TEXT | PROVERBS 25:1-10

1 These also are proverbs of Solomon which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied.

2 It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.

3 As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable.

4 Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel;

5 take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness.

6 Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great,

7 for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen

8 do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame?

9 Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret,

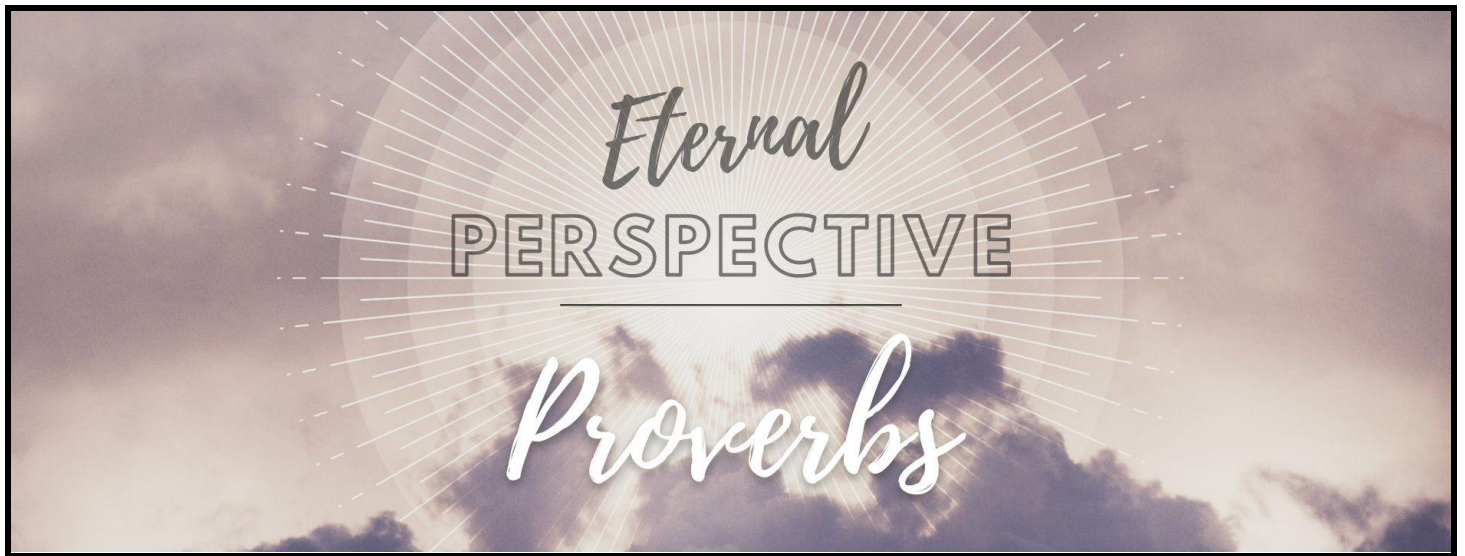
10 lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

DEVOTIONAL FOR PROVERBS 25:1-10

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When the Founding Fathers of this great experiment that we call the United States of America wrote the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, they were coming from a mostly Christian foundation. How things have changed! In today's passage, Solomon observes God's glory and how He has concealed things in His creation for that glory. He also makes observations regarding kings (great men) and how, as hard as they might try, they cannot behold the secrets that God has hidden.

God has placed (appointed) the leaders that we have in government, both local and national, that are now running things. We, as Christians, are called to pray for these leaders, regardless of whether we agree or disagree with the



policies they install. We must remember that during Jesus' ministry, the Jews were being held down and oppressed by the Romans. We, as followers of Christ, have the luxury, or benefit, of the Holy Spirit to guide us in our responses to our version of political oppression. We must react in a way that honors God, or we risk confusing those who really need Jesus (Romans 13:1-2).

No matter what policies and restrictions might be put in place by the government, we must remember that our freedom is from Jesus Christ and what He did for us on the cross. "For kingship belongs to the Lord, and He rules over the nations" (Psalm 22:28). There is nothing more tiresome than those who get overworked and excited by the actions of the government and, by doing so, misrepresent their Christian beliefs.

Questions:

1. Do you lose sleep and worry about today's political climate? Why?
2. Has a political discussion or disagreement caused a divide between you and your family or friends? Why? Have you amended and reconciled that relationship?
3. Do you believe in the sovereignty of God?