

Wickedness Breeds Wickedness

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➤ Intro:

- Pr. 29:4, 6, 12, 14, 16

- application: wickedness breeds wickedness

- What can we learn from the fact, that wickedness breeds wickedness?

➤ The wicked overthrow people with their wickedness

- Pr. 29:4 man who takes bribe overthrows the land

- the wicked overthrow others with their wickedness

➤ - 1 Cor. 15:33 do not be deceived, bad company corrupts good morals

- stay away from wickedness, or become wicked

- we turn into that which you keep company with – evil people, evil movies, evil music

- if we choose to keep company with evil (people, media, etc.), we turn ourselves over to sin to be corrupted by it

➤ - Rom. 12:21 the only way to overcome wickedness is with goodness – proactive against evil

- wickedness breeds wickedness

- so the only way to overcome wickedness is with goodness

-“kill'em with kindness”

➤ The wicked are ensnared by their own wickedness, and the wickedness of others

- Pr. 29:6 by transgression an evil man is ensnared

- the wicked are ensnared by their own wickedness, and the wickedness of others

➤ - Rom. 6:6, 16-17 we are slaves to sin, if we aren't faithful Christians

- enslaved by our own wickedness

- released by obeying God's word from the heart (vs. 17)

- application:

- the worst life a person can live is a life of sin – the best is righteousness

- bars and nightclubs: empty, shallow, meaningless

- when we observe the wicked, we can be assured their wickedness will come back to “bite them”

- they pay for their wickedness through wickedness

- ultimate punishment is eternal damnation

- **If we give into any wickedness, we encourage people around you to act wickedly**
 - **Pr. 29:12** if a ruler pays attention to falsehood, all his ministers become wicked
 - if we give into wickedness, we encourage people around is to act wickedly
 - copy our example
 - do it to get our attention, please us, make us happy

- - **What will happen if we give into wickedness?**
 - **Rev. 21:8** spend eternity in hell, second death, lake of fire
- - **1 Cor. 5:1-2, 5-6, 11** corrupt the church and other Christians, unless action taken against us, disfellowshipped
- - **Eph. 5:22-25; 6:1-4** destroy family
- - **1 Cor. 15:33** corrupt companions with our wickedness

- **importance of our example of life: church, family, friends, community**
 - we are either helping people get to heaven or to hell
 - if we give into wickedness, we are helping them get to hell

- **The only way you can positively impact people is to live and speak the truth**
 - **Pr. 29:14** if king judges the poor with truth, his throne will be established forever
 - the only way you can positively impact people is to live and speak the truth

- - **Eph. 4:14-16** speak the truth in love, the only way to build people up – only way to build up the church
 - **Col. 4:6** speech always with grace, as though seasoned with salt
 - **1 Pet. 3:15** make a defense, give reason for hope, yet with gentleness and reverence
 - evil tears people down, but truth lifts them up

- **The more wicked people are involved with a particular thing, the more wicked it becomes**
 - **Pr. 29:16** when the wicked increase, transgressions increase
 - the more wicked people are involved with a particular thing, the more wicked it becomes

 - **illus.: family, government, business, school, community projects**
 - look at the people (esp. the top) - if they're wicked, the organization is wicked
 - to have the highest quality organization (family, business, etc.) keep wickedness out & righteousness in
 - be selective when attaching yourself to an organization – choose less wicked, most righteous

 - **illus.: church**
 - if wicked people are in a church, the church is wicked
 - not exercising church discipline
 - only way to have a successful church is to exercise disciple – keep wickedness out & righteousness in

 - **importance of our lives in the world as disciples of Christ**
 - **Matt. 5:13-16** salt of earth, light to world, men see our good works and glorify Father in heaven
 - **Christians:** influence of the world, preserving it from destruction (salt), guiding to righteousness (light)

Summary / Inv.

- summary

- choosing wicked companion, choosing to be wicked
- the wicked are ensnared by their own wickedness
- if we give into wickedness, we encourage other people to act wickedly
- the only way you can positively impact people is to live and speak the truth
- the more wicked people are involved with a particular thing, the more wicked it becomes

- as wickedness breeds wickedness, goodness breeds goodness

- **2 Tim. 2:22** flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart
- **Heb. 10:24-25** let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another

- **inv.:** only way to make a positive impact on your life and others is to be a Christian