

The Ancient Landmarks

Proverbs 22:28

There's a lot of things moving and changing in our modern world.

The term liberal has been replaced by progressive...as in PROGRESS

Conservatives have either moved left

Or are called a part of the "far right" as if to be further distanced

This message, while bringing up political issues, might reveal some of my political stance, it is not at its heart a political message

It is a message that hopefully allows us to consider the Word of God

And how it hasn't changed in millenia, and yet, if possible, is more relevant today than yesterday

[pray]

Proverbs, written by King Solomon, David's son and others (Lemuel, Agur, etc).

You know King Solomon had to have had at least one piece of life advice from his father that he hung on to.

[Pro 1:1-10 NKJV] 1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: 2 To know wisdom and instruction, To perceive the words of understanding, 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, judgment, and equity; 4 To give prudence to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion-- 5 A wise [man] will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, 6 To understand a proverb and an enigma, The words of the wise and their riddles.

Prudence, knowledge, discretion, increase learning, attain wise counsel, understanding

All of these things are GOOD things

The question in the modern world is, what defines them. What truly is good.

And as in the garden, "Did God really say..." the attack always starts on our definition of God. Is he the authority? Is he even real?

Darwinism was that very undermining of the foundation of knowledge...even though many giants of science past were believers in God and their belief lead them to true discovery

7 The fear of the LORD [is] the beginning of knowledge, [But] fools despise wisdom and instruction. 8 My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; 9 For they [will be] a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck. 10 My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.

Fools despise wisdom and instruction

I just think of myself as a teenager...thinking I knew it all...raging against all wisdom and instruction that my own way was better

So much of the modern world rages against wisdom, instruction, instead forging their own path, thinking they are rebels, standing up for a just cause, and yet they are simply raging against wisdom itself and wondering why they are hurting, lost, and not getting what they want out of life

This verse has been echoing louder and louder in my heart and mind over the past few years.

(and since the next study in Genesis is with Abraham trying to secure a burial plot for Sarah and we've had a few weeks off, and it was heavy on my heart, I thought it was a good time to side step for a week)

Proverbs 22:28

Do not remove the ancient landmark Which your fathers have set.

I think a lot of our modern ailments and current societal unravelling has direct roots in what this very piece of wisdom tells us explicitly to avoid.

On its face, it's talking about land boundaries...fences...property lines

Property line in NY getting measured as they were resuming work on the new road next to the property...me being wary and nosy and constantly spying on the guys walking the property even though it was not my own

Someone I knew in Maryland had neighbors constantly fighting over their property lines

This is your land, you paid for it, you don't want it messed with, or stolen, or taken, even an inch

The problems it causes

The border wall. There are people along the border to which the Federal Government will have to take their land and use for the wall. The media plays it up as people opposing it, and I'm sure some do, but me, if I was a landowner, and people were trespassing on it - citizens or not - I would want people off of my property and not using it for illegal activities.

I'd be pretty livid. I wouldn't be happy about losing land to a fence, but what else am I using it for?

Farming rights - it's your business

Copyrights, legal grounds, it's your livelihood. You certainly don't want the future generations coming and messing with your retirement

The problems with social security, pensions, other funds...not enough to pay for it Over promised and under delivered.

Why should the federal government be anyone's safety net?

What happened to the old ways of having land, keeping it in the family, or taking care of your elders?

I had a good friend in high school who was first generation American, his family had emigrated from Korea. And I saw bits and pieces of the "old world" culture in his home and the respect needed for parents and grandparents. I've heard over the years how elders are cared for and honored in ways that just aren't done in our culture.

I'm not saying forcing it is right, or that they were good or bad, but **would we need social security, the federal government, or an old age home** to take care of our parents if we just kept the land we've had, or businesses passed down, that **we might take care of our parents when they're old?**

Not that hospice or medical care or those options are wrong when needed...but the point I'm making is that the mindset in general is that parents will be dumped somewhere else and children fight over not having to care for them. I'm making a generalization, but I think we can agree that seems to be the majority at least in public perception.

I don't want my parents to be in bad health or poverty, but if they are, I hope that I'm able to care for them.

How many elderly are still working jobs today because of this?

Perhaps it's their own doing, not saving, not being wise stewards, etc...but even if it is, shouldn't their family be there for them?

[Pro 17:6 NKJV] 6 Children's children [are] the crown of old men, And the glory of children [is] their father.

Proverbs 13:22a A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children,

These aren't direct, but it's not only providing for our children but also their grandchildren
 There is a physical, spiritual, mental and emotional inheritance to be passed on
 Involved in their lives that they might be benefited

But even today, look at the backlash against those who have familial wealth?

Or is it not called some sort of privilege?

Is it not jealousy?

Is it not that they are jealous that someone else has privilege and they don't?

**Granted, not everything is good, not all privilege is good, but what I'm saying is,
 Why is privilege wrong across the board?**

**I WANT MY KIDS TO HAVE BLESSINGS THAT I DIDN'T HAVE OR DON'T HAVE NOW
 I WANT THEM TO LEARN WISDOM THAT I'M LEARNING NOW AT 37 BEFORE THEY
 TURN 7**

Why is it public (government) schools teach so little about money? About personal finance?
 Investing? Saving?

Why is it parents don't always teach it? Is it any wonder most people are in huge credit card
 debt, student loan debt, and don't have savings?

**We are not taught to value possessions or finances and how to be good stewards of
 them**

**And those who are good stewards of them, so much so that they can pass on an
 inheritance, are somehow classified as evil?**

**That a current generation that lacks is somehow lacking because the generation before
 them didn't give it to them...so they demand it from the government or from someone
 else who has it...without working for it.**

**Their fathers have no landmarks because their fathers removed their father's
 landmarks...**

**The cultural revolution of the baby boomers was all about removing the ancient
 landmarks**

Removing cultural norms. Removing the "shackles" of the lifestyles of their parents

Hard work

Monogamy

Morality**Selflessness (the greatest generation)****Discipline (both self-discipline and of child rearing)****When the fruits of their revolution came to pass, my generation was left in a mess.****No landmarks****No God in schools****No family at home****No inheritance to build and start a life on****Instead drugs, emptiness, vanity and pursuits of pleasure****And now my generation is the generation of parents...and look at the kids of today****We had no landmarks to reference and set no boundaries****And this generation questions whether they are even a boy or a girl****Proclaims that wrong is right****And that choice is life****And that personal power is in slavery and that freedom is archaic**

[Isa 5:20-21 NKJV] 20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! 21 Woe to [those who are] wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!

[2Ti 3:1-7 NKJV] 1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

These are the last days.**Make no mention the times are more perilous by the hour.****It's rotting at an exponential rate...just read the news...and look at people's lives and mindset, and the church****This is a heavy message, but it has to be said.****We must restore the ancient landmarks**

In our own lives

Prayer, worship, fellowship, Bible study, evangelism

Career goals, family goals

[1Th 4:11-12 NKJV] 11 that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and [that] you may lack nothing.

How many people don't want a quiet life...they want the loudest, most audacious, attention getting, power hungry, money overflowing life possible

What goals do today's Christian kids have? Is it a million instagram followers? Or is it to lead a quiet life and raise a family?

We're being told it's wrong to live quietly, yet how many millennials don't even want to leave the house...because they really want it deep down! They long for the quiet life, but they don't know how to have it...because the way to have it has been uprooted! Removed from them! The landmarks have been obscured! Changed! Outlawed!

Part of the call out to Montana, this verse and the desire it awoken

Glad to see some of that out here, but also heartbroken as the ruins of modern society are easy to spot and find in the cities where there is a stark contrast in people's attitudes and desires and political leanings

In the church

[Act 2:42-43 NKJV] 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. 43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

So much of the church wants light gospel, entertainment and smoke shows, sold out crowds, best selling books, polished faces ,when God wants the ancient landmarks of John the Baptist, Paul and Timothy, King David and Solomon, Isaiah, Ezekiel and Deborah and Ruth.

Men, women, children sold out to God, not seeking riches...but the wisdom of God

Content to be in a small church, or a big one

Content with acoustic or a full worship set

As long as God is there. Not if the #1 Christian single is there.

I don't get it. I find landmarks moved and it makes me want to give up. Yet I know I'm not the only one who wants the ancient landmarks restored and protected.

In the world

Education, government, politics, business

The constitution outlines inalienable rights given to us by our creator

Yet the modern thought is that it has to be changed...that law abiding citizens, attempting to keep the ancient landmarks, are somehow villains, terrorists or crazy for wanting the personal responsibility to take care of their family, their land, their neighbors and their country. That those jobs are really the government's responsibility...yet we claim democracy is king.

Where else in life is it fair to punish, limit and go after those who have done no wrong because someone else has.

Why is the straight A student sent to detention for the things committed by the kid playing hookey?

The rules must be changed.

The rules were fine. Things changed when we moved the ancient landmarks of personal responsibility and accountability to a God who loved us.

School shootings didn't happen in a society where God was feared and believed in.
School shootings didn't happen when kids hunted with their fathers or were taught gun safety or the sanctity of life.

Life isn't sacred anymore unless it's convenient or fashionable.
Abortions shouted from the billboards and touted to elementary school children.
Kids taught they are an evolutionary accident and have no intrinsic worth...in fact, reduce the world population because of global warming!

I've got news for you, the world is NOT going to flood again, although it is going to get much hotter first, and not because of cars, fossil fuels and plastic straws, but because of God's Tribulation judgment.

[Gen 8:22 NKJV] 22 "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease."

That's how I know global warming is a hoax...maybe there is some effect, but it's not going to end the world as we know it. People are afraid of the flood returning because deep down they know judgment is coming. But they've removed the ancient landmarks telling them of why it's coming, yet they still know we're bringing it on ourselves.

But you know, the writer of proverbs knew his scripture, he says it earlier as well

[Pro 23:10 NKJV] 10 Do not remove the ancient landmark, Nor enter the fields of the fatherless;

That part of this is taking from others who are defenseless

That those who are caught up in power grabs, have to move the ancient landmarks to get more power. You have to move and change boundaries of laws in order for more oversight and control. You can't be in total control of the society without removing the controls that society put on you to maintain their freedom.

And so often, it's the fatherless that are affected most

Inner cities

Suburbs

Where are the hurting kids? The ones with broken homes

Why are the homes broken?

Because boundaries were moved, removed, or crossed

Ten commandments there for a reason...to provide protective boundary

Nehemiah rebuilding the wall, sword in one hand, tool in another

The boundaries that protected the kids are gone and no new policy will ever effectively replace the ones that need to be there

If we care about the children, and truly do, we won't be encouraging them to change who they are, but we'll be doing all we can to protect who they're meant to be.

By knowing Who He is. And what he's said from the beginning.

[Deu 19:14 NKJV] 14 "You shall not remove your neighbor's landmark, which the men of old have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.

[Deu 27:17 NKJV] 17 'Cursed [is] the one who moves his neighbor's landmark.' "And all the people shall say, 'Amen!'

I believe King David taught his son, Solomon, these verses...and if not, Solomon was wise enough to search the scriptures for himself.

And because Solomon sought wisdom, God gave him everything else kings desire.

Our lives, our families, our churches, our towns, our country and our world needs to be rebuilt.

I don't necessarily believe the towns or country or world will be rebuilt at the rate things are falling apart...I pray so...I know they will when Jesus comes back...but that doesn't mean I want to hasten their destruction...I want to preserve them.

But that must start with our families...personally...providing them spiritual refuge, having relationship with our children and our extended families...working and seeking for personal independence to be able to provide inheritance for them apart of the world falling apart...that they might have privilege when there is none to be found elsewhere.

That our families might find refuge in us in all manners that we might be able to meet each other's needs

But that has to start spiritually. The spiritual landmarks must be in place first before any other building can be accomplished.

And that starts with seeking God's provision. His privilege. It's his desire to build individuals into families (be fruitful and multiply), families into churches, and churches that impact their communities...for this generation and the next...and the next...until He returns.

It doesn't mean we'll have the classic American dream, perhaps some of it is off, But it does mean we can live God's dream.

And if he's given us the opportunity, let us not let it be invaded by someone trying to remove the landmarks He's given us for life.

[Jhn 10:1-4 NKJV] 1 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 "But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

Hear his voice to you today. A voice of wisdom, calling

[Pro 1:20-23 NKJV] 20 Wisdom calls aloud outside; She raises her voice in the open squares. 21 She cries out in the chief concourses, At the openings of the gates in the city She speaks her words: 22 "How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in their scorning, And fools hate knowledge. 23 Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.