

The Proverbs of Pastor Ron Crenshaw

aka The Book of Ronicles

Chapter 1

To all who name the Name of Jesus, greetings. May the anointing of the Spirit of God be upon the words that I write to you. Inasmuch as the Lord has called me to instruct His lambs in the ways of righteousness, He has granted me wisdom and insight into His ways. These things have manifested in variegated ways over the years of my ministry. In the following proverbs I will bring forth some of these things in a simple and easy-to-understand manner. It is my hope that the child of God will find them useful for instruction. To the extent that this is accomplished, may all the glory go to the great God and King who has delivered us from darkness by giving us the light of His holy Word, namely, Christ Jesus. As I am instructed by the Lord Jesus, so it is that I write. Be it known that I share these words with those to whom they are written, and they are written to those to whom they speak. Amen

Chapter 2: On The Matter of Faith

1. Faith is blind, but only concerning those things that cannot be seen with the natural eye. It does not call the things which are, as though they were not. For if we could see the end from the beginning, where would be the need for faith?
2. Faith is in deeds not merely words. It's deeds, not mere words that get you into the kingdom of God; it's also deeds, not mere words that keep you from it.
3. It is faith that allows you to act in the natural as though the promise were in hand.
4. If you can't walk on the water, stay in the boat.
5. If your efforts consist only of "trying," your endeavor is doomed to failure. To merely "attempt" something is to be weighed down with the specter of failure.
6. Doubt is the fuel of "trying".
7. If you don't intend on receiving, it is better not to hear.
8. What we merely believe is irrelevant, but that which we perceive is from the Lord.
9. The things that bespeak the glory of God have not ceased their testimony.
10. Faith is its own logic.
11. Faith is like a staircase, one reaches the top one step at a time.
12. Your faith is not demonstrated in merely enduring the pain.

13. In the realm of the spirit there is no need of hope, for all is clearly seen. But on earth, where darkness thrives, hope lights the way to the promise of redemption.
14. Strength obtains without need, but hope is founded in weakness.
15. The foundation of valor is faith.
16. The Holy Spirit makes all the difference in our ability to believe. He bridges the gap between talking the talk and walking the walk.
17. The purpose of the candle of the Lord is to light the way to salvation.
18. Faith triumphs over the covenant.
19. Faith may be blind, but it is not lame.
20. He came in the flesh to author our faith. He returned to the Father to validate our faith. He sent us His Holy Spirit to finish our faith.
21. Signs and wonders may astound the senses, but they do not produce faith that endures.
22. You don't need a tongue to utter the words that may only be spoken with the spirit.
23. In the battle for our faith, we don't have an assurance of peace, but we do have a guarantee of victory.
24. For those who have faith, no explanations are needed. For those who do not, none are sufficient.
25. For those who say that it is foolish to believe in a Bible written by men, consider the following. Who would be the bigger fool? Would it be us for believing in a non-existent God, willing to sacrifice so much for something worth so little? Or would it be Him by allowing mere men the opportunity to undermine His creation by fomenting lies about His plans and purposes? You decide.

Chapter 3: Walking in the Way of Righteousness

1. Obtaining the prize is the promise of God, not the smooth journey.
2. The realization of our weaknesses is a powerful motivator to seek God.
3. The kind of weaknesses we should be glorying in are those that give God the opportunity to be strong in us.
4. If you have desire and mix it with His ability, then you will know success.

5. Not having the Holy Spirit does not exclude you from striving to walk in the fruits of the spirit, but keeps them just out of your reach.
6. To know Christianity is to know the way of the zombie. They are called to be amongst those who are the living dead.
7. The evidence of our relationship with God is our obedience to His Word. Nothing that we say with our mouths is valid without doing the works of salvation.
8. God does not need our help, but He does require our cooperation.
9. To be totally free from the specter of harm is to be totally bound, but the price of liberty is the ability to choose.
10. It is necessary to use that which is of the realm of the natural to obtain that which belongs to the world of the spirit.
11. Bitterness is the end result of unrestrained anger, and it is rooted in the soul and consumes the flesh.
12. The only one who is free from the threat of judgment is the one who is also free from the body of sin.
13. Look good on the outside, yes, but look better on the inside.
14. Jesus gave His life to deliver us from hell. He gave us the Holy Spirit to give us victory on earth.
15. The Holy Spirit is on the earth to empower us and reveal the Son of God to us. He is manifested to our spirits to teach us of Jesus, but He is invisible to our eyes so as not to distract us from Him.
16. Your fire for the Lord needs to burn hotter than the fiery trials of the devil.
17. You will never be a winner unless you are willing to go down fighting as a loser.
18. People who wallow in failure do a lot better at it when they have company.
19. Diligence prevails over powerlessness.
20. Consider trials and tribulations not as stumbling blocks, but stepping-stones.
21. The soul has no defense against the heart that has been set on the path of evil.
22. Fear of the shadow of death comes to the soul that is not at peace.
23. God does not necessarily want you happy, but He does want you obedient, and being obedient may sometimes lead to unhappiness. He wants us to walk in the truth more than He wants us to be pain free.

24. Patience is that which occupies the time lag between the prayer of faith and the obtaining of the promise.
25. I can't get rid of the rocks that wait to trip you up, but I can tell you where not to step.
26. The prospect of death is no barrier to submission.
27. Inasmuch as God has created the heavens and the earth, you only get to disagree with Him if you can do likewise.
28. Discretion is the last line of defense against the consequences of wrongdoing.
29. Fighting temptation is a losing battle.
30. Evil only prospers in the vacuum left by the absence of good.
31. It is the seeking of truth that makes you immune to deception.
32. By the changed life that the Gospel brings, we will be known of God. The cross that we display in our house is not telling Him anything that He does not already know.
33. It is much more important to live than to merely be alive.
34. In the Lord, the road to victory may be paved with the blocks of defeat.
35. Taking the crooked path will greatly increase the length of the journey.
36. Unity makes evil very evil, and good very good.
37. For he who walks upright before the Lord, it is better to be seen in the eyes of the world as infamous, rather than a man of renown.
38. If one's heart is not in it, then obedience is fleeting.
39. On the matter of entertaining angels, don't despise the visitation, but authenticate the visitor.
40. Agreement will substitute for a covenant.
41. Through the eyes of the spirit, you may perceive that which cannot be seen in the flesh.
42. The most dangerous lie of all is the one that is 99% true.
43. Great friends make greater enemies.
44. Walking in health is better than the best medicine.
45. Death is not an inevitable certainty, but a consequence.
46. Don't rejoice in the hearing unless you are willing to persevere in the doing.

47. Weakness and infirmity should be stepping-stones to strength; they should not be permanent abodes.
48. You have nothing to fear from the consequences of sin if you avoid the precipitating deeds.
49. The path to sin is made all the more easily traveled by the absence of the specter of judgment.
50. The seed of leadership is planted in righteousness.
51. God is not found in the multitude but in the remnant.
52. If you don't want to be the loser and the weeper, don't be the finder and the keeper.
53. It is difficult to be sick in your body if you are well in your mind.

Chapter 4: Follow After That Which is Truth

1. Without the girding of truth, the sword of the Spirit will only be an instrument of hypocrisy.
2. You only become subject to the lie when you do not love the truth.
3. A lie that is not received is powerless to harm you.
4. The knowledge of the truth will expose any lie.
5. The lie has no independent existence apart from the truth, for the presence of the truth bears witness against the lie.
6. It is the hallmark of pride that retains the lie when it has been confronted by the truth. However, humility recognizes the truth and rejoices in it.
7. You may face many foes of great power, but it is authority that wins the day.
8. We may not be acquainted with the "from everlasting," but through Christ Jesus we may become partakers of the "to everlasting."
9. For he who would speak as the oracle of God, the power is in the Word and not the vessel.
10. In the presence of the knowledge of the truth, there is no place found for opinion.
11. If you side in with the Word of God, it will side in with you.

12. The foundation for a relationship with a woman is better laid with conversation rather than fornication.
13. Burning the Bible will not extinguish the knowledge of God, nor will it silence the witness of the heavens.
14. For the one with integrity, it is more important to be honest than it is to win.
15. It is a mistake to live one's life in pursuit of the things that pertain merely to the flesh. For although we may revel in the pleasures of sin while we live, we will discover in death that eternity is a lot longer than the longest lifespan.
16. In the pursuit of knowledge of the kingdom of God, what you know is not nearly as important as what you are willing to learn.
17. Running the race is the task that must be accomplished between receiving salvation and obtaining it.
18. Effort that is of the flesh will not reap a benefit in the spirit.
19. Never ask the question unless you are willing to live with the answer.
20. The truth may wound the soul, but for those who receive it, it will always bring life to the spirit.
21. What good is long life without satisfaction?
22. Anyone who is holding the door of hell open for you is not your friend.
23. He who would be the conqueror has ceased from the combat.
24. The truth is not swayed by the preponderance of the opinion.
25. Silence is better than the loudest of idle words.

Chapter 5: Judgment

1. Your patience may lawfully have limits only when you are in a position to execute judgment.
2. The only time that you fall into condemnation from the Lord is when you refuse to hear the witness of your own conscience.
3. Who is the slave but the man who loves his life more than his freedom?
4. Take heed that your sins do not exceed grace's ability to cover them. And, woe unto you if you run out of mercy before judgment runs out of accusations.
5. If you work enough hours at sin, you will earn enough to die.

6. In the absence of sin, there is no place found for intercession.
7. If you don't have His name on your lips down here, He won't have yours on His up there.
8. To believe the Word is to overcome death, but it is the understanding that will lead to overcoming in life.
9. Better late than later.
10. Don't walk on the fiery stones unless you're ready to take the heat.
11. Only those who have partaken of the first Adam have the right to also share in the blessing of the last Adam.
12. God has allowed us to collect on the debt that Justice owed Jesus.
13. As a stopped-up tub can be made to overflow by a drip, so too will one's testimony be destroyed by being inattentive to the smallest details.
14. The power of forgiveness is in the repentance, and its fruit is mercy.
15. Grace is forged in the fire of love.
16. You don't want to run out of gas when you are on the highway to hell, lest when you change your ways you are not able to reach the road to salvation.
17. Grace will keep you from being convicted of the crime, and will operate even where there is no repentance. Whereas, mercy commutes the sentence but will only work in the presence of repentance.
18. There is no place found for grace for those upon whom the law has no claim.
19. There is no mercy in judgment.
20. If you don't want to endure the pain of the memory, it is best to avoid the experience.
21. The only ones who fear judgment are those who are subject to it.
22. Judgment's desire for you ends at the gates of hell.
23. The only thing more important to Justice than punishing the guilty is vindicating the innocent.
24. A "good" person is merely a sinner who has not yet been caught.
25. Grace is a consumable commodity.
26. Grace protects you from the wrath of God, but against the fury of the devil it is powerless.

27. If you don't plan on letting Jesus into your house, it is better if you don't answer the door when He knocks.
28. A seared-over conscience masks a life of sin.
29. You cannot reach the pinnacle of Christianity without crossing the point of no return.
30. Your testimony had better consist of something more than "God loves me," for hell is full of the people that God loves.
31. God will not judge you beyond the witness of your own conscience.
32. Your destination is reached by the road that you choose to walk on, not by the alter that you started from.
33. Dying is not ceasing to exist; it is merely a change of address.
34. Prophecy, in and of itself, does not a prophet make.
35. Prophecies do not dictate events, they only foretell them.
36. Time is only relevant to those who have a beginning and an end.
37. If you find yourself thrown into murky waters, it isn't the not knowing how to swim that kills you, it's the fear.
38. Probabilities are no match for the words of your mouth.
39. Paradise is that which remains after all that offends has been removed.
40. Punishing the guilty is the path that justice takes to vindicate the innocent.
41. The truly penitent man has no need to make excuses.
42. Grace is the phenomenon that allows sin to continue without immediate consequence.
43. Evil exists, not as an invention of God, but as a consequence of choice. It is the state in which one finds himself when he has transgressed the commands of God.
44. Responsibility without authority is an exercise in futility.
45. Deeds of darkness do not get any lighter through repetition.
46. Words may be idle, but they are never empty.

Chapter 6: Love and Hate

1. You cannot judge love by the way that you feel, for it is not measured by the ruler of the soul.
2. When love is not perfected, there yet remains a place for fear.
3. Where there is love it will diffuse evil intent.
4. If correction cannot be found under the covering of love, then open rebuke will expose those who are sinning.
5. Love is not selective but opportunistic.
6. In order to truly be one in marriage, it is necessary to sacrifice the ability to ever again be two.
7. Love never fails, but you may fail love.
8. Love does not keep an account of sin, but it is hate that stands ready to execute justice.
9. Against those who are sinning, it is necessary to invest in hate in order to reap a profit in love.
10. If love has failed to win the day, then the hope of victory lies in hate's last stand.
11. Those who render hate, unto those to whom it is due, are approved of God more than those who are merely indifferent.
12. The ability to choose love is revealed through the presence of hate.
13. It was necessary for a place to be found for hate, so that a greater place could be found for love.
14. Love alone cannot conquer sin, for judgment is obtained through hate.
15. You have to love enough to be willing to hate if necessary.
16. The presence of hate is allowed so that justice can be served.
17. Situational hate is useless unless you are ready to translate it into personal hate.
18. Love acts beyond the boundaries set by the limits of hope.

19. If you want companionship when you are old and wrinkled, stick with the one you had when you were young and tight.
20. Love is not a loan that we might make, but it is a gift that we give.
21. Love is neither restrained by the limitations of faith, nor overcome by hopelessness.

Chapter 7: Money Matters

1. In the pursuit of life, make sure that what you are seeking are the things of God and not just God's things.
2. Those who have need, labor. But he who is abundantly supplied takes his ease.
3. The good end can only be obtained through righteous means.
4. The one who learns how to be poor in spirit will be made rich in goods.
5. For those who have entered into life and still suffer lack, poverty has not overtaken them, but they have failed to exit from it.
6. If you obtain your reward from men, it stays in the realm of men.
7. Money begins a new life every time it changes hands.
8. Whatever you have that you didn't earn is a gift, unless you have stolen it.
9. The only time that giving to God is without profit is if your motives are impure.
10. As long as you let the devil line your pockets, he will own your soul.
11. The things that money cannot buy don't cost a dime. Everyone can afford them, but there are few who are willing to pay.
12. Worldly riches matter not, for earthly currency won't spend in heaven.
13. You can't sweat for another until you have first sweat for yourself.
14. Inasmuch as there is no glory in lack, the goal of being in debt should be looking for the exit.
15. It isn't the mere presence of wealth that leads to evil-doing, but it is the greedy heart.
16. You cannot be obedient to the word of God, and yet live under the curse. Nor can you be disobedient, and yet live in the blessings.
17. He who is spiritual spends his time talking himself out of blessing someone, rather than convincing himself that he should.

18. The time lag, between the sowing and the reaping, is the region where hope abides and faith prevails.

Chapter 8: Says He to the Shepherds

1. If you are feeling weighed down by your Christianity, you are probably substituting religion for the yoke of Christ.
2. The truth is neither nice nor harsh, it just is. You have need of something much more powerful than that which is merely nice.
3. If you remove Christ from Christianity, or Christ from the Christian, you will still be left with the Christ. But where would the victory be?
4. Failure can only be accomplished in growing faint despite the specter of winning.
5. Food is for the body and the body is for the ground. So why lose someone's soul for the sake of the dust?
6. The person who is not confident in what he knows spends too much time leaving room for doubt, while he who knows that he is right is bold.
7. In order for discord to be sown in the midst of brethren, there must first be unity.
8. Hypocrisy will nullify a lifetime of good deeds.
9. Your conduct will speak far louder than the words of your mouth.
10. There is no truth that can be found outside of the boundaries of the Holy Scriptures that cannot first be found within them.
11. You cannot have the teacher without accepting the authority that comes from the teaching.
12. To those whom He has called to be shepherd, don't let your desire to fill seats exceed your zeal to fill hearts.
13. The man of God who makes one true convert is more honored by the Lord than the one who presides over a host of forgetful hearers.
14. Those who are called to be vessels of God will be judged only on the delivery of the message, not the reception thereof.
15. The teacher bridges the gap between what you know of God, and what may be known of God.

16. There are no shortcuts on the road to success, and happy is the one who completes the journey.
17. The power of the Word is in the spirit of the Word and not in the mouth of the vessel used to speak it.
18. Happy is the shepherd who is more concerned with building with living stones than dead ones.
19. The truths that you have will never harm you. It's the truths that you don't have, and the lies that you embrace as truths, that will destroy you.
20. Happy are those who are led by the shepherd and have this testimony; hurt me if you must, but deliver my soul from hellfire.
21. Lust for power and riches may make one great on the earth, but the grave is the great equalizer.
22. It is foolish to refuse to be wrong, but it is an even greater folly to refuse to be right.
23. If death is being sown from the pulpit, it is not possible to reap life from the pew. If life proceeds from the pulpit, it is not possible to extinguish it from the pew.
24. Any argument tainted with doubt is insufficient to turn a heart.
25. There are some to whom it is given to know the mystery of godliness. There are others to whom it is only given to be told.

Chapter 9: The Case for Wisdom

1. In order to truly be a child of the Most High, you must learn to distinguish between the crucifix and the One who is on it.
2. Wisdom will extinguish that which is kindled by knowledge, namely, the fire of pride.
3. Never mind about smoothing out the bedding. Learn to live with the lumps.
4. It is good to give of one's body for the sake of the kingdom of God; however, it's better if you don't have to.
5. Let your mouth be the witness of last resort as evidence of your Christianity.
6. If your heart is open to the Lord, let not your house be closed to the stranger.

7. If you think that the word of God may not be true, you have nothing to lose by believing, since being already condemned you are not risking anything.
8. Knowledge that is not bridled by wisdom can cause much destruction.
9. You won't ever be right if you are not willing to be wrong.
10. It is easier to convince one person to do wrong than two, because you only have to overcome the witness of one conscience.
11. Words that are not put into deed are valueless.
12. Let your honor be in substance, and not in name only.
13. To those who reject the way of righteousness, they are never uninformed, but always unwilling.
14. It is better to understand than to memorize. In your pursuit of knowledge, strive to understand rather than to merely remember.
15. In the deeds that are occasioned by wisdom, there is no guilt.