

# COMMIT THY WORKS UNTO THE LORD

## PROVERBS 16:1-3

Text: Proverbs 16:3

### **Proverbs 16:3**

<sup>3</sup>Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

Introduction:

The majority of the proverbs in this section of the Proverbs present contrasts.

Solomon begins this section by encouraging us to get the right focus in life.

In these first nine verses Solomon brings our attention to 9 aspects of our lives.

1. Man's Words
2. Man's Waywardness
3. Man's Work
4. Man's Wickedness

5. Man's Willfulness

6. Man's Well-being

7. Man's Walk

8. Man's Wealth

9. Man's Ways

Over the next few weeks we will look at these things.

Notice this week:

## **1. CAUTION – THE WAYS OF MAN (VS. 2)**

### **Proverbs 16:2**

<sup>2</sup> All the ways of a man *are* clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

### **Proverbs 14:12**

<sup>12</sup> There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

### **Proverbs 16:25**

<sup>25</sup> There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

In this we see the truth of mans assumption regarding himself.

A. The Conviction – ... which seemeth right

Most men are blinded to their own faults

Most men like to brag of their own faithfulness

### B. The Course – ... A way

Will be the wrong way

Will be the wayward way

### C. The Consequences – ... Ways of death

Man's way will end in death

Man's way will end in destruction

#### **Proverbs 29:1**

<sup>1</sup> He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth *his* neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

Man's way will end in despair

#### **Revelation 20:11-15**

<sup>11</sup> And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. <sup>13</sup> And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. <sup>14</sup> And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second

death. <sup>15</sup> And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

## 2. COMMAND – COMMIT

Commit means:

1. to give in trust or charge; consign.
2. to consign for preservation: *to commit ideas to writing; to commit a poem to memory.*
3. to pledge (oneself) to a position on an issue or question; express (one's intention, feeling, etc.): *Asked if he was a candidate, he refused to commit himself.*
4. to bind or obligate, as by pledge or assurance; pledge: *to commit oneself to a promise; to be committed to a course of action.*
5. to entrust, especially for safekeeping; commend: *to commit one's soul to God.*
6. to do; perform; **perpetrate**: *to commit murder; to commit an error.*
7. to consign to custody

Commit is the root of commitment.

Commitment is an essential part of the Christian walk. When we say we need to be committed to Christ it means the following:

1. When we commit it means we have the mindset to stick with it to the end.
  2. When we commit we stand on our values even if others disagree.
  3. When we commit we determine to not compromise our ethics.
  4. When we commit we refuse to be polluted by the world's ways.
  5. When we commit we take responsibility for our actions.
  6. When we commit we trust God when we face impossible situations.
  7. When we commit we see God use us mightily in his kingdom to influence others.
- Notice an illustration of a committed man – Daniel

- Daniel Showed His Commitment By His Morality

### **Daniel 1:8-20**

<sup>8</sup> But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. <sup>9</sup> Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs. <sup>10</sup> And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why

should he see your faces worse liking than the children which *are* of your sort? then shall ye make *me* endanger my head to the king. <sup>11</sup> Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, <sup>12</sup> Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. <sup>13</sup> Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants. <sup>14</sup> So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days. <sup>15</sup> And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat. <sup>16</sup> Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse. <sup>17</sup> As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. <sup>18</sup> Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>19</sup> And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king. <sup>20</sup> And in all matters of wisdom *and* understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* astrologers that *were* in all his realm. Daniel showed commitment to the Lord by making his stand and God blessed him but many more challenges came to him and he stayed committed.

- Daniel Showed His Commitment Through His Trials and Tribulations

### **Daniel 2:10-38**

<sup>10</sup> The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter: therefore *there is* no king, lord, nor ruler, *that* asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean. <sup>11</sup> And *it is* a rare thing that

the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh. <sup>12</sup> For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise *men* of Babylon. <sup>13</sup> And the decree went forth that the wise *men* should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain. <sup>14</sup> Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise *men* of Babylon: <sup>15</sup> He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why *is* the decree *so* hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel. <sup>16</sup> Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation. <sup>17</sup> Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: <sup>18</sup> That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise *men* of Babylon. <sup>19</sup> Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. <sup>20</sup> Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: <sup>21</sup> And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: <sup>22</sup> He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what *is* in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. <sup>23</sup> I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast *now* made known unto us the king's matter. <sup>24</sup> Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise *men* of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; Destroy not the wise *men* of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will shew unto the king the interpretation. <sup>25</sup> Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation. <sup>26</sup> The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name *was* Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof? <sup>27</sup> Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret

which the king hath demanded cannot the wise *men*, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; <sup>28</sup> But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these; <sup>29</sup> As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came *into thy mind* upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass. <sup>30</sup> But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for *any* wisdom that I have more than any living, but for *their* sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart. <sup>31</sup> Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness *was* excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof *was* terrible. <sup>32</sup> This image's head *was* of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, <sup>33</sup> His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. <sup>34</sup> Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet *that were* of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. <sup>35</sup> Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> This *is* the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. <sup>37</sup> Thou, O king, *art* a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. <sup>38</sup> And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou *art* this head of gold.

- Daniel Showed His Commitment By His Service and Loyalty – Daniel 4:1-37; Dan 6:1-24

We must commit our works unto the Lord. Without doing such we can never expect God's blessings.

### **3. CERTAINTY – THY THOUGHT SHALL BE ESTABLISHED**

#### **Proverbs 16:3**

<sup>3</sup>Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

So often we are perplexed as to what to do. But if our ways are committed unto the Lord our thoughts will be established.

Close:

May we be cautious, and committed, knowing for certain that He will establish our thoughts