

THE SPIDER

PROVERBS 30:28

Text: Proverbs 30:28

Proverbs 30:28

²⁸ The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces.

Introduction:

Spiders are very small creatures of God, but they are very wise (Proverbs 30:24).

Proverbs 30:24

²⁴ There be four *things which are* little upon the earth, but they *are* exceeding wise:

Here is the fourth of the small things that provide object lessons for wisdom.

Some are too proud to learn from this small creature, which can be crush and destroy very easily however:

Proverbs 1:5

⁵ A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

There are many lessons that we can learn from the spider – some of which are attributes that should be

found in the life of every Christian and some to be used as warnings of danger that are looming all around us.

Note:

1. THE SPIDER IS PERSISTENT

There is both a negative and a positive lesson to be learned here.

A. The negative:

A spider at times uses its catch as bait to entice larger insects to its web.

Spiders catch many small insects in its web but they don't consume them all. They often leave several alive and struggling in the web as bait to entice larger insects to the web.

Evil and temptation is persistent. We should never be complacent as the devil persists in tempting us.

Illustration:

Luke 4:1-13

¹ And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. ³ And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone

that it be made bread. ⁴ And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. ⁵ And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶ And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. ⁷ If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. ⁸ And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. ⁹ And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: ¹⁰ For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: ¹¹ And in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. ¹² And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. ¹³ And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

Note the expression – Departed from Him for a season. The devil is persistent in that which he does.

B. The Positive

- A spider builds a web everyday

There is never a day that we can sit idly by.

- Spiders are willing to work alone

There are times that we may have to work alone.

Illustration:

The song writer wrote: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Tho no one join me still I will follow – No turning back,
No turning back.

2. THE SPIDER DOESN'T SEEK APPROVAL FROM OTHERS

A spider doesn't go around seeking approval of its creation, or crave awards from some design council in the insect world.

Note:

Proverbs 12:2

² A good *man* obtaineth favour of the LORD: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.

Galatians 1:10

¹⁰ For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 2:4

⁴ But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.

3. SOME SPIDERS HAVE DEADLY VENOM

Some spiders have so much venom in their mouth that their bite can be lethal even to humans.

The Word of God has much to say about the tongue:

Psalm 10:7

⁷ His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue *is* mischief and vanity.

Psalm 52:2

² Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

Proverbs 18:21

²¹ Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

James 3:5-6

⁵ Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! ⁶ And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

James 3:8

⁸ But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

The Bible says that the power of life and death is in the tongue and those who love will eat the fruits of it.

Words are powerful for the very reason that creation came to be by words.

God spoke everything into being and sustains same by the word of His power.

Words can heal or kill, build up or tear down.

5. SPIDERS ARE SMALL – BUT CAN DO AMAZING THINGS

The spider is a small creature but it is found in king's palaces. The splendor of a building is not a deterrent to the spider. No security guard can keep it out.

Size doesn't determine potential.

Little is much when God is in it.

If strength or capacity was determined by physical size, David would have stood no chance whatsoever against Goliath.

Illustration:

The Lad found in John 6

John 6:9

⁹There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

1. The Lad

The main thing here is not the name of the lad, because the name is not even given to us.

Not much is said about him in this passage but I believe we can read between the lines and discern three things about the young lad.

- He was sensitive.

There were thousands of hungry people there and he cared about them. Since the people were in need of food, the lad knew something must be done.

- He sacrificed his lunch
- He was sold in heart and mind on the fact Jesus could do something about the great need among the people

2. The Lunch

- That represents what we give to God from our own lives
 - It was humble (small)
 - It was hallowed (set apart for the Lord's use)

- It was helped (or multiplied by our Lord)

3. The Lord

- He was willing to help the people
- He was working for the people, multiplying the lad's food
- Christ was illustrating what He will do when we give Him our "small" lunch

What do you have to offer?

You say only a little.

Since He is the "multiplying" God, don't worry, for little is much when God is in it!

Close:

During World War II, a US marine was separated from his unit on a Pacific Island. The fighting had been intense, and in the smoke and the crossfire he had lost touch with his comrades.

Alone in the jungle, he could hear enemy soldiers coming in his direction. Scrambling for cover, he found his way up a high ridge to several small caves in the rock. Quickly he crawled inside one of the caves.

Although safe for the moment, he realized that once the enemy soldiers looking for him swept up the ridge, they would quickly search all the caves and he would be killed.

As he waited, he prayed, "Lord, if it be your will, please protect me. Whatever your will though, I love you and trust you. Amen."

After praying, he lay quietly listening to the enemy begin to draw close. He thought, "Well, I guess the Lord isn't going to help me out of this one.." Then he saw a spider begin to build a web over the front of his cave.

As he watched, listening to the enemy searching for him all the while, the spider layered strand after strand of web across the opening of the cave.

"Ha, he thought. "What I need is a brick wall and what the Lord has sent me is a spider web. God does have a sense of humor."

As the enemy drew closer he watched from the darkness of his hideout and could see them searching one cave after another. As they came to his, he got ready to make his last stand. To his amazement, however, after glancing in the direction of his cave, they moved on. Suddenly, he realized that with the spider web over the entrance, his cave looked as if no one had entered for quite a while. "Lord, forgive me,"

prayed the young man. "I had forgotten that in you a spider's web is stronger than a brick wall."

May we learn the lessons from the spider.