

# Sermon Handout

## Calamity and Security

### Proverbs 1:20-33

- I. Wisdom Speaks: The Personification of God's Spirit** vv. 20-21
- a. In the streets – to the people generally v. 20b
    - i. Wisdom calls out to all Pr 8:1-11
    - ii. Wisdom presents a choice Pr 9:1-6 *cf.* 1:10, 15
  - b. In the marketplace – merchants and business community v. 21a  
Wisdom gives guidance in all aspects of life *cf. e.g.*, Eph 6:4-9
  - c. In the gates – civil leaders v. 21b *see* Ps 16:7-8; Ps 19:7-14
  - d. Summary: all categories of people are called to listen to Wisdom  
*See* Ps 147:11

- II. Words of Reproof** vv. 22-23
- a. Move away from naivete and ignorance v. 22
    - i. Elemental effects of God's Word II Tim 3:16  
"Teaching, Reproof, Correction, Righteous Preparation"
    - ii. God blesses the humble and contrite Isa 66:1-2
  - b. Respond to God's rebuke v. 23
    - i. Action, not "consideration," is called for (TURN!)  
II Chron 7:14; Ez 33:11; Pr 28:13; Is 55:7
    - ii. The corresponding result is spiritual understanding
      1. God's Spirit is given for guidance; and
      2. God's words are made known to the contrite I Pet 2:1-3

- III. The Cost of Rejecting Wisdom** vv. 24-31
- a. Rejecting God's counsel vv. 24-25 *cf.* Pr 17:4
  - b. Fools are cut off from God's grace vv. 26-28
  - c. Rejecting wisdom leaves them to self-destruction vv. 29-31 I Cor 6:9-10

- IV. Damnation of Fools; Joy of the Obedient** vv. 32-33
- a. The success of the fools is their destruction v. 32 *cf.* Rev 21:8
  - b. Attending God's Wisdom leads to safety v. 33 Ps 119:1-8; Jn 14:15, 21