- 27 Never *brag about the plans* you have for tomorrow, for *you do not have a clue what tomorrow* may bring to you. Living fully today!
  - <sup>25</sup> "So I tell you, do not worry about the food or drink you need to live, or about the clothes you need for your body. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothes. <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds in the air. They do not plant or harvest or store food in barns, but your heavenly Father feeds them. And you know that you are worth much more than the birds. <sup>27</sup> You cannot add any time to your life by worrying about it. Living fully today!
  - <sup>28</sup> "And why do you worry about clothes? Look at how the lilies in the field grow. They do not work or make clothes for themselves. <sup>29</sup> But I tell you that even Solomon with his riches was not dressed as beautifully as one of these flowers. <sup>30</sup> God clothes the grass in the field, which is alive today, but tomorrow is thrown into the fire. So you can be even more sure that God will clothe you. Do not have so little faith! <sup>31</sup> Do not worry and say, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup> The people who do not know God keep trying to get these things, and your Father in heaven knows you need them. <sup>33</sup> Seek first God's kingdom and what God wants. Then all your other needs will be met as well. <sup>34</sup> So do not worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow will have its own worries. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

    [Matt 6: 25 34] Living fully today!
  - <sup>13</sup> Some of you say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to some city. We will stay there a year, do business, and make money." <sup>14</sup> But **you do not know what will happen tomorrow!** Your life is like a mist. You can see it for a short time, but then it goes away. <sup>15</sup> So you should say, "If the Lord wants, we will live and do this or that." [James 4: 13 15] Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Do you think you are *blessing your neighbors* when you sing at the top of your lungs early in the morning? Do not be fooled—*they will curse you* for doing it! *Living fully today!* 



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Let someone else honor you for your accomplishments, for self-praise is never appropriate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> It is easier to carry *a heavy boulder and a ton of sand* than to be *provoked by a fool* and have to carry that burden! Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>The *rage and anger of others* can be overwhelming, but it is nothing compared to *jealousy's fire*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> It is better to be *corrected openly* if it stems from *hidden love*. Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> You can *trust a friend* who wounds you with his *honesty*, but your enemy's *pretended flattery* comes from *insincerity*. Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> When your soul is full, you turn down even the sweetest honey. But when your soul is starving, every bitter thing becomes sweet. When we are full of many things and many opinions, the sweet word of God, like revelation honey, is spurned. Instead, we eat and fill our souls with things that can never satisfy. Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Like a bird that has fallen from its nest is the one who is **banished from his home**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Sweet friendships, with their counsel, refresh the soul and awaken our hearts with joy. Good friends are like the anointing oil that yields the fragrant incense of God's presence. Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> So *never give up on a friend* or *abandon a friend of your father*—for in the day of your brokenness you will not have to run to a relative for help. A *friend nearby* is better than a relative far away.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> My son, when you walk in wisdom, my heart is filled with gladness, for the way you live is proof that I have not taught you in vain. Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> A wise, shrewd person discerns the danger ahead and prepares himself, but the naïve simpleton never looks ahead and suffers the consequences. A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; the simple fools walk into it and are punished.
Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Cosign for a person that you barely know, and you will pay a great price! Anyone stupid enough to guarantee the loan of another deserves to have his property seized in payment. Living fully today!

## **FOUNDATIONS**: Proverbs 27

"I have stored up Your word in my mind, that I might not sin against You." Ps. 119: 11

<sup>31</sup> "When **the Son of Man appears** in **His majestic glory**, with all **His angels by His side**, **He will take His seat on His throne of splendor**, <sup>32</sup> and all the nations will be gathered together before **Him**. And like a shepherd who separates the sheep from the goats, **He will separate** all the people. <sup>33</sup> The 'sheep' **He will put on his right side** and the 'goats' on **His left**. <sup>34</sup> Then **the King** will turn to those on **His right** and say:

'You have a special place in **My Father's heart**. Come and experience **the full inheritance of the kingdom** realm that has been destined for you from before the foundation of the world! <sup>35</sup> For when you saw **Me hungry**, you fed **Me**. When you found **Me thirsty**, you **gave Me something to drink**. When **I had no place** to stay, you **invited Me in**, <sup>36</sup> and when **I was poorly clothed**, you **covered Me**. When **I was sick**, you tenderly **cared for Me**, and when I was in prison **you visited Me**.' **Living fully today!** 

<sup>37</sup> "Then the godly will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty and give You food and something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see You with no place to stay and invite You in? When did we see you poorly clothed and cover You? <sup>39</sup> When did we see You sick and tenderly care for You, or in prison and visit You?'

<sup>40</sup> "And **the King** will answer them:

'Don't you know? When you cared for one of the least of these, **My little ones**, **My** true brothers, and sisters, you demonstrated **love for Me**.' [Matt. 25: 31 – 40]

"15There are three words to describe the greedy: "Give me more!"

There are some things that are never satisfied.

Forever craving more and unable to say, "That is enough!" Here are 'four of the insatiable':

- <sup>16</sup> **the grave**, yawning for another victim; **the barren womb**, ever wanting a child; **dry and thirsty soil**, ever longing for rain; and a **raging fire**, devouring its fuel. They are **all insatiable!**" [Prov. 30: 15 16]
- <sup>21</sup> Fire is the way to test **the purity of silver and gold**, but **the character of a man is tested** by giving him a 'measure of fame'. **Check his character** by listening to **what he praises! Living fully today!**
- <sup>22</sup> You can *beat a fool* half to death and still *never beat the foolishness* out of him.
- <sup>23</sup> A shepherd should pay close attention to the faces of his flock and hold close to his heart the condition of those he cares for. Living fully today!
- <sup>24</sup> A man's *strength, power, and riches* will one day fade away; not even nations endure forever. *Living fully today!*
- <sup>25</sup> Take care of your responsibilities and be diligent in your business and you will have more than enough—<sup>27</sup> an abundance of food, clothing, and plenty for your household. Living fully today!

## **Proverbs 27**



"Your eyes saw my 'substance', being yet unformed in my mother's womb; And in Your Book of Life, the days of my life were already written, The days that You had fashioned for me,

When none of those days had yet been walked by me." Ps. 139: 16 Living fully today!



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> An *endless drip, drip, drip, from a leaky faucet* and the words of a *cranky, nagging spouse* have the same effect. <sup>16</sup> Can you stop the north wind from blowing or grasp a handful of oil? That is easier than to stop *this spouse from complaining*. *Living fully today!* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> It takes a grinding wheel to sharpen a blade, and so one person sharpens the character of another.

As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend. Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Tend an orchard and you will have fruit to eat. Serve the Master's interests and you will receive honor that is sweet. Living fully today!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Just as no two faces are exactly alike, so every heart is different. As still, clear water reflects the face, so a man's heart *reveals the true man*. *Living fully today!* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> **Death and Destruction** are never filled, and the **desires of men's hearts** are **insatiable**.

## **FOUNDATIONS**: Proverbs 27

"I have stored up Your word in my mind, that I might not sin against You." Ps. 119: 11

<sup>5</sup> Philip traveled to the main city of Samaria and preached to them the wonderful news of Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> The crowds were *eager to receive Philip's message* and were *persuaded by the many miracles and wonders he performed*. <sup>7</sup> Many *demon-possessed people* were *set free and delivered* as evil spirits came out of them with loud screams and shrieks, and many who were *lame and paralyzed were also healed*. <sup>8</sup> This resulted in an *uncontainable joy* filling the city! *Living fully today!*<sup>9</sup> There was a man, Simon, who lived there who was *steeped in sorcery*. For some time, Simon had astounded the people of Samaria with his magic, *boasting* to be someone great. <sup>10</sup> Everyone, from the least to the greatest among them, was *dazzled by Simon's sorcery*, saying,

"This man is the greatest wizard of all! The divine power of God walks among us!"

11 For many years everyone was in awe of Simon, even bowing down to him, because of his astonishing displays of the magic arts.

<sup>12</sup> But as Philip preached the wonderful news of God's kingdom realm, and the name of Jesus the Anointed One, many believed Philip's message and were baptized, both men and women. <sup>13</sup> Even Simon believed and was baptized! Wherever Philip went, Simon was right by his side, astounded by all the miracles, signs, and enormous displays of power that he witnessed.

<sup>8</sup> But the **faith-righteousness that we receive** speaks to us in these words of Moses:

"God's living message is very close to you, as close as your own heart beating in your chest and as near as the tongue in your mouth." [Deut. 30: 14] Living fully today!

<sup>9</sup> And what is God's "living message"? It is the revelation of faith, the word of faith for salvation, which is the message that we preach. For if you publicly <u>declare with your mouth</u> that Jesus is Lord and <u>believe in your heart</u> that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will experience salvation. <sup>10</sup> The heart that believes in Jesus receives the gift of the righteousness of God—and then the mouth that confesses 'Jesus is Lord', resulting in salvation. Living fully today!

<sup>11</sup> For the Scriptures encourage us with these words:

"Everyone who believes in Him will never be disappointed." [Isa. 28: 16] Rom. 10: 8 – 11

<sup>14</sup>When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the Samaritans had accepted *God's message of life*, they sent Peter and John <sup>15</sup> to pray over them so that they would receive **the Holy Spirit.** <sup>16</sup> For they had only been baptized in **the name of the Lord Jesus** and were yet to have *the Holy Spirit fall upon them.* <sup>17</sup> As soon as Peter and John arrived, they laid their hands on the Samaritan believers, one after another, and *the Holy Spirit fell and filled* each one of them! *Living fully today!* 

<sup>18</sup> When *Simon saw* how *the Holy Spirit was released through the laying on of the apostles' hands*, he approached them and *offered them money*, <sup>19</sup> saying, "I want this power too. I'm willing to pay you for the anointing that you have, so that I also can lay my hands on everyone to receive the Holy Spirit."

<sup>20</sup> Peter rebuked him and said, "Your money will go with you to destruction! How could you even think that you could purchase God's supernatural gift with money? <sup>21</sup> You will never have this gift; you will never take part in this ministry, for your heart is not right with God. <sup>22</sup> Repent this moment for allowing such wickedness to fill you. Plead with the Lord that perhaps He would forgive you the treachery of your heart. <sup>23</sup> For I discern that jealous envy has poisoned you and binds you as a captive to sin."

<sup>24</sup> Simon begged, "Peter, please pray to God for me. Plead with God so that nothing you just said over me may come to pass!" Acts 8: 5 - 24

<sup>13</sup> "Then the king turned to his servants saying, 'Tie him up and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be great sorrow, with weeping and grinding of teeth.' <sup>14</sup> For <u>everyone</u> is invited to enter in, but few respond in excellence, with worthiness; many are called, but few are chosen." [Matt. 22: 13 – 14] Living fully today!

