

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by John T Polk II For The Fellowship Room

(#185) The Proverbs of Solomon 27:8- Where Did You Find Greener Grass?

Proverbs 27:8:

Like a bird that wanders from its nest is a man who wanders from his place.

"A bird that wanders from its nest" has no protection from predators, no provisions for its babies, and no purpose in life. The "nest" is an important base of operation to which a bird may return that gives it reasonable security. The idea of the bird that "wanders" is one that leaves its purpose to chase after insecure and dangerous ways.

Through the Prophet Jeremiah, God asked His people: "Why do you gad about so much to change your way?" (Jeremiah 2:26). Surely this highlights a restlessness in humans that produces ruin.

- Since everything God Created was "very good" (Genesis 1:31), why did Adam and Eve desire the only thing God didn't give to them (Genesis 2:15-17)?
- Since God only made one woman to be married to one man (Genesis 2:22-24), why does an individual seek more than one spouse (Genesis 4:19; 28:9; John 4:16-18)?
- Since God only created humans to be "male and female" (Genesis 1:27), why would either physical, birth- sex try to become the other one, either by a surgical operation or by practice (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)?
- Since obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ makes a person "a new creation" (John 3:5; Acts 2:38; 2 Corinthians 5:17), why would anyone want to use that as an excuse for leaving spouse and children (1 Corinthians 7:16-24)?
- Since God specifies what spiritual sacrifices Christians must offer in worship (Hebrews 13:15-16; Colossians 3:16; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2), why would anyone think He would be pleased with anything else?

Wandering away from God's "nest" of rules never produces a better life. Jesus said He came "that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly" (John 10:10). There is no "other" gospel or variation of Jesus' Gospel that is better than what we have in the Bible:

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to

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pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. (Galatians 1:6-10)

The grass is never greener outside God's commandments!