**Proverbs 12:3 & 10**

**3. No one can be made secure by wickedness, but the root of the righteous is immovable.**

**10. The righteous cares about his animal’s health, but even the merciful acts of the wicked are cruel.**

When it comes to diseases and plagues, there are often symptoms that come with them. If it is Chicken Pox you get bumps, and a fever. If you have the flu, you get weak, have a fever and cannot hold food down, and if you are a sinner you act normal until you are approached by the Word of God, then your symptoms range from depression to rage or even utter contempt. Sinning, however, is just a symptom. It is a symptom of this fallen world and us living in fallen bodies.

These two proverbs show us a symptom and the reality of the situation of believers and sinners alike. Like most of his proverbs, Solomon knew both righteousness and wickedness. His own birth would not have happened if wickedness did not occur between David and Bathsheba. He only knew of that side of David as it is said that David did not sin again. Surely he sinned but he did not do so knowingly and willingly, falling headlong into it. Solomon saw the righteous David, the David that was a man after God’s own heart.

These proverbs tell us two things, only righteousness is everlasting and if you are righteous you will care about all of God’s creatures. This is not a plug for PETA, it is just a simple truth that cruelty to animals and people alike are not to be done. We are told to be stewards of this land, we are told to rule over the animals. Like our Father above, who is a merciful and caring Lord we are to be as well. The wicked do not act in that way. They act cruelly, and as it says even the most merciful acts that a sinner does is cruel. This is because we let scripture interpret scripture when it says that only good comes from God. (Mark 10:18).

Remember this week, as Christians live free in your salvation. Do not be burdened by a works based salvation. You do works because of grace not to earn it. Also remember to study your Bibles and pray to your Father in heaven as always. CMTTP