

“Dangerous Foolish Friends”

Proverbs 13:20

August 22, 2021

I. The Fool Is Dangerous to Be Around (Proverbs 13:20)

- A. We expose ourselves to great danger by being friends with a fool.

Proverbs 17:12 - Better to meet a bear robbed of her cubs than a fool bent on folly.

- B. Why is this true?

1. Fools are unreliable.

Proverbs 26:6 - Whoever sends a message by the hand of a fool cuts off his own feet and drinks violence.

2. Fools will turn on us. (See Prov. 26:6)

3. We will become party to their foolishness.

Proverbs 26:10 - Like an archer who wounds everyone is one who hires a passing fool or drunkard.

4. We will become like them. (Prov. 13:20a)

1 Corinthians 15:33 - ³³ Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”

II. Why It’s Necessary for Us to Know This

- A. The confidence of fools is attractive.

- B. So is the fool’s way with words.

- C. We can also be easily drawn in by the fool’s casual attitude toward sin.

Proverbs 14:16 - A wise man is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is arrogant and careless.

Application –

1. Make close friendships/associations with the truly wise.

- a. The truly wise are those who fear the Lord, i.e., believers.
 - b. Those closest to us, and those to whom we give most of our time, should be wise believers.
2. Watch-out for the influence of the foolish -- but subtle -- companion that is popular culture.
 3. Be thoughtful in the education of your children.
 4. Be ever mindful of your ongoing capacity to *be* that foolish companion that causes others harm.
 5. Be thankful for Jesus, the friend of foolish sinners.
 - a. Look to His death and resurrection for forgiveness from foolishness.
 - b. Walk with Him, *the Wise One*, and be made wise.

Revelation 3:20 - Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.