

Dig Deeper into Proverbs 30

Talk Outline from Ben:

4 cautions:

1. About wealth (v1-9)
2. Those around us (v10-17)
3. Disrupting God's order (v18-23)
4. Self exaltation (v29-33)

The underlying theme: Pride.

All of this points to Jesus (esp v4).

1. His perfect example
2. We need the help of the Holy Spirit
3. We will get this wrong and need his forgiveness.

Questions for discussion:

1. In v1-3 Agur describes himself as ignorant. But goes onto write ch30 and demonstrates great wisdom. How does he gain that wisdom? What implication does this have for how we approach our own serving and teaching.

2. Agur provides 4 key warnings. And they serve as warnings for our hearts. Think of possible behaviours that we need to be on the lookout for, that could mean we are becoming more proud in this area of our lives. (It might be helpful to do this in chunks, splitting across the different themes: wealth 7-9, treating those around us 10-17, disrupting God's order 18-23, self-exaltation 29-33)

3. Discuss the characteristics of the wise animals in 24-28. What can we learn from them?

4. This passage is a warning from pride, but an encouragement to humility. What does Jesus's humility look like (I came up with 3 examples - I am sure there are lots more!) and how can we learn from him?

Resources

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyrax> for verse 26!