

The Prayer Of Agur

Proverbs 30

Who Was Agur?

Verses 1-6

- And I have not learned wisdom,
- Neither have I the knowledge of the Holy One.
- Every word of God is tried (pure KJV). (Psalms 19:7ff; cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:3)
- Add thou not unto his words, Lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. (cf. Deuteronomy 4:2; Galatians 1:6ff)

His Prayer Contains Two Parts Proverbs 30:8

Part 1

- ***“Remove far from me falsehood and lie.”***

Part 2

- ***“Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is needful for me.”***

His Prayer Contains Two Parts Proverbs 30:8

“Remove far from me falsehood (vanity) and lies.”

- “Vanity” (KJV) -A masculine noun meaning emptiness, vanity, evil, ruin, uselessness, deception, worthless, without result, fraud, deceit. (The Complete Word Study Dictionary)
- Many things are done for false show & pride.
 - Pharisees. Matthew 6:2-5; Matthew 23

His Prayer Contains Two Parts Proverbs 30:8

- ***“Remove far from me falsehood (vanity) and lies.”***
- ***“and lies”*** “a deception, a falsehood.” (The Complete Word Study Dictionary)
 - cf. Exodus 20:16; Colossians 3:9; Ephesians 4:25; Revelation 21:8
 - God destroys liars (Psalms 5:6-7; 62:4-5) and calls them an abomination (Proverbs 6:19).

His Prayer Contains Two Parts Proverbs 30:8

Part 2

Proverbs 30:8-9

“Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is needful for me: Lest I be full, and deny (thee), and say, Who is Jehovah? Or lest I be poor, and steal, And use profanely the name of my God.”

1. “Give me neither poverty
2. Nor riches;
3. Feed me with the food that is needful for me.”

Poverty

Proverbs 30:8-9 Three parts to this petition:

1. *"Give me neither poverty..."*

- Reason given, *"...Or lest I be poor, and steal, And use profanely the name of my God."*

Poverty

- Poverty is a strong temptation to dishonesty.
- "I stole because I was poor" cf. Proverbs 6:30
- But observe why Agur dreads this:
 - Lest he should dishonor God by it: *"Lest I should steal, and take the name of my God in vain."*
- Ephesians 4:28

Riches

2. *"Give me not riches"*

- Reason given, *"...Lest I be full, and deny (thee), and say, Who is Jehovah?"*

Riches

Wealth tempts to pride, unbelief, and a scorn

- Pharaoh (Exodus 5:2) "Who is Jehovah that I should obey his voice?"
- Children of Israel forgot their dependence upon God. Deuteronomy 6:10; 8:11-20
- Solomon. Ecclesiastes 2:3-9; 1 Kings 8:62-63; 10:1-7, 21, 27; Ecclesiastes 5:10; 1 Kings 11

Riches

- Rich young ruler. Luke 18:18-24
- Two brothers. Luke 12:16-21
- True Treasure. Matthew 6:19-21; 1 Timothy 6:17
 - Macedonians. 2 Corinthians 8:1-5
 - Paul. 2 Corinthians 12:15; Philippians 4:12

Food That Is Needful

Part 3

"Feed me with the food that is needful for me"

Physically

- Those things sufficient. Matthew 6:11; James 4:3
- Contentment. 1 Timothy 6:7-8; Philippians 4:11
- Worry. Matthew 6:34; James 4:13-14

Food That Is Needful

“Feed me with the food that is needful for me”

■ Spiritually.

- Jesus called some hypocrites. *Matthew 15:7-9*
- Stephen accused some of murder. *Acts 7:51-53*
- Peter rebuked sin. *Acts 2:38; 8:20-24*
- Immaturity rebuked. *Hebrews 5:11-14*

The Prayer Of Agur

Proverbs 30:7-9

7 Two things have I asked of thee; Deny me (them) not before I die:

8 Remove far from me falsehood and lies; Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is needful for me:

9 Lest I be full, and deny (thee), and say, Who is Jehovah? Or lest I be poor, and steal, And use profanely the name of my God.

What Would You Pray?

- “Lord, give me not poverty, but if it be that only in poverty I can learn to trust in thee, then may poverty come.”
- Judges
- Luke 15 – Prodigal lost everything and learned.
- Amos 4:6, 12 – Israel lost everything and did not learn.

What Would You Pray?

- “Give me not more riches than I can control and use wisely, lest I learn to trust in them and deny thee...”
- Solomon. *1 Kings 10-11*
- Rich young ruler. *Luke 18:18-24*
- Two brothers. *Luke 12:16-21*

What Would You Pray?

- “Give me day by day the necessities of life, that I may keep looking unto thee.” *2 Corinthians 4:18-5:1*