



Proverbs - Chapter Twelve

III Proverbs 10:1-22:16 - Wise Sayings of Solomon (continues)

Summary of Chapter Twelve

No one finds security through wickedness. Those who work the land have food. Rash words pierce like a sword. Righteousness leads to life.

Introduction to Proverbs 12:1-4

This section begins by encouraging the reader to be one who loves discipline and not one who hates reproof or moral correction (v.1); such an attitude produces a life that will never be moved (v.3).

- ¹ Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge,
 but those who hate to be rebuked are stupid.

Proverbs 12:1

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge. Wisdom instructs people to keep learning and to love instruction and knowledge. A humble willingness to be taught shows a true love of knowledge.

Those who hate to be rebuked are stupid. The proud man or woman who is unwilling to receive correction reveals his or her own rejection of knowledge: *<<and at the end of your life you will groan, when your flesh and body are consumed, and you say, 'Oh, how I hated discipline, and my heart despised reproof! I did not listen to the voice of my teachers or incline my ear to my instructors. Now I am at the point of utter ruin in the public assembly'>>* (Proverbs 5:11-14).

- ² The good obtain favour from the Lord,
 but those who devise evil he condemns.

Proverbs 12:2

The good obtain favour from the Lord. Obedience to God leads to deeper relationship with him: *<<then he prays to God, and is accepted by him, he comes into his presence with joy, and God repays him for his righteousness>>* (Job 33:26), *<<For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favour and honour. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly>>* (Psalm 84:11), and: *<<If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin>>* (1 John 1:6-7). This principle was especially true under the old covenant, with its promises of blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience as detailed in Deuteronomy Chapters 27-28.

Those who devise evil he condemns. God sees the heart and sees wicked intentions before they result in action, and even if they never result in action.

- ³ No one finds security by wickedness,
but the root of the righteous will never be moved.

Proverbs 12:3

No one finds security by wickedness. Many people seek to advance and establish themselves through treating others badly. Lying, cheating, and deception are common when someone seeks to advance or establish themselves. This is never God's way and can never result in his blessing. Adam Clarke commented, "Evil is always variable: it has no fixed principle, except the root that is in the human heart; and even that is ever assuming new forms. Nothing is permanent but goodness; and that is unchangeable, because it comes from God."

The root of the righteous will never be moved. God establishes his righteous ones in a firm, permanent way: *<<Those who have been born of God do not sin, because God's seed abides in them; they cannot sin, because they have been born of God>>* (1 John 3:9). Their root goes down deep and holds strong.

- ⁴ A good wife is the crown of her husband,
but she who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones.

Proverbs 12:4

A good wife is the crown of her husband. A woman of good character helps her husband live faithfully and brings him visible public honour. A man may achieve success in many areas of life, but unless there is happiness in the home, all other achievements are empty. To have an excellent wife and all the domestic happiness

that she brings is a true crown of success: <<*He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favour from the Lord*>> (Proverbs 18:22).

A good wife is described in detail in Chapter 31. Boaz referred to Ruth in this manner: <<*And now, my daughter, do not be afraid; I will do for you all that you ask, for all the assembly of my people know that you are a worthy woman*>> (Ruth 3:11). Derek Kidner remarked, “The modern sense of virtuous (av, rv) [excellent] does no justice to the Hebrew term’s root idea of strength and worth. The modern phrase, ‘she has a lot in her’, expresses something of the meaning.”

She who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones. A wife that brings shame to the husband and the family seems to take away life and happiness instead of bringing it.

Introduction to Proverbs 12:5-7

These three proverbs are united by the word pairs righteous and wicked (v.5), wicked and upright (v.6), and wicked and righteous (v.7). The proverb progresses from righteous counsel vs. wicked counsel (v.5), to treachery vs. deliverance (v.6), and finally to the destruction of the wicked vs. the stability of the righteous (v.7).

- ⁵ The thoughts of the righteous are just;
the advice of the wicked is treacherous.

Proverbs 12:5

The thoughts of the righteous are just. The righteous man or woman is not only right in their actions, but even in their thoughts. They know something of what it means to be transformed by the renewing of the mind, something that Paul calls for in Romans 12:1-2.

The advice of the wicked is treacherous. As for the wicked, it is more than their actions that are deceitful; their counsel, perhaps their thoughts, is also full of deception and error.

- ⁶ The words of the wicked are a deadly ambush,
but the speech of the upright delivers them.

Proverbs 12:6

The words of the wicked are a deadly ambush. The wicked plot violence and are ready to ambush others for their own unrighteous gain. The psalmist records how the faithful can deal with such entrapment: <<*The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from your precepts*>> (Psalm 119:110).

The speech of the upright delivers them. The upright man or woman will find their rescue in the good and wise words that they speak: <<*The talk of fools is a rod for their backs, but the lips of the wise preserve them*>> (Proverbs 14:3).

⁷ The wicked are overthrown and are no more,
but the house of the righteous will stand.

Proverbs 12:7

The wicked are overthrown and are no more. Having no root in righteousness, the wicked cannot and will not stand: <<*Again I passed by, and they were no more; though I sought them, they could not be found*>> (Psalm 37:36). They will one day be overthrown and simply perish.

The house of the righteous will stand. God will preserve his own righteous men and women. They and their house will endure that which would overthrow the house of the wicked: <<*The house of the wicked is destroyed, but the tent of the upright flourishes*>> (Proverbs 14:11).

⁸ One is commended for good sense,
but a perverse mind is despised.

Proverbs 12:8

One is commended for good sense. A person gains the respect of others through speaking or acting with wisdom. Wise men and women will be recognised and honoured for their wisdom. The more wisdom, the greater the commendation. This is often true in this world, but always true in the world to come.

A perverse mind is despised. The one with a crooked or twisted heart will not receive praise, but instead will be despised. They will be despised by their community but not by the Lord: <<*Surely God is mighty and does not despise any; he is mighty in strength of understanding*>> (Job 36:5). This present age often shows this to be true, and the coming age will certainly show it so.

Introduction to Proverbs 12:9-11

These are sayings about ordinary workers that illustrate either the ‘good sense’ or the ‘twisted mind’ of v.8. Lack of food (v.9b) is paralleled by lack of sense (v.11b), and both verses speak of the importance of prudent labour in order to provide enough to eat. The point of the whole is that the righteous person cares even for his animals (v.10a) and provides for his household by a sensible perspective on life (v.9a) and a sensible work ethic (v.11a). By contrast, he who follows worthless pursuits (v.11), such as get-rich-quick schemes, gambling, or lotteries, in a modern context, lacks sense and, by contrast with the first half of the verse, will probably live in poverty as well: <<*Anyone who tills the land will have plenty of bread,*

but one who follows worthless pursuits will have plenty of poverty>> (Proverbs 28:19).

- ⁹ Better to be despised and have a servant,
than to be self-important and lack food.

Proverbs 12:9

Better to be despised and have a servant. To receive an insult or be slighted is never pleasant, but wisdom sees that if one has enough in this world to have a servant, they should not be so proud as to despair over an insult.

Than to be self-important and lack food. The proud man who promotes his own honour cannot eat his self-exaltation. Honouring self is not the way to either prosperity or happiness. Kidner suggested an alternative translation: “But rsv, following LXX, Syriac, reads the same Hebrew consonants to mean: ‘Better is a man of humble standing who works for himself than one who plays the great man but lacks bread.’ This is stronger, and gives more content to the word ‘better’.”

- ¹⁰ The righteous know the needs of their animals,
but the mercy of the wicked is cruel.

Proverbs 12:10

The righteous know the needs of their animals. God cares for the animals, which are also his created beings: <<*These all look to you to give them their food in due season*>> (Psalm 104:27), and: <<*Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father*>> (Matthew 10:29). The righteous or godly man will also show care and compassion to his animal. There is a true sense in which the animal is his, and God gives him authority over the animals: <<*God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth’*>> (Genesis 1:28); but he is to exercise that authority with care and compassion. Clarke commented, “I once in my travels met with the Hebrew of this clause on the sign board of a public inn: *yodea tsaddik nephesh behemto*. ‘A righteous man considers the life of his beast;’ which, being very appropriate, reminded me that I should feed my horse.”

The mercy of the wicked is cruel. Even the supposed mercies of the wicked have their own cruel self-interest in mind. The righteous man is kind even to his animals; the wicked man can be cruel even in his kindness. Clarke observed, “The wicked, influenced by Satan, can show no other disposition than what is in their master. If they appear at any time merciful, it is a cloak which they use to cover purposes of cruelty.”

- ¹¹ Those who till their land will have plenty of food,
but those who follow worthless pursuits have no sense.

Proverbs 12:11

Those who till their land will have plenty of food. The one who does the hard work of farming will be satisfied with bread. Under God's blessing, they will enjoy the result of their labour: <<*Anyone who tills the land will have plenty of bread, but one who follows worthless pursuits will have plenty of poverty*>> (Proverbs 28:19).

Those who follow worthless pursuits have no sense. The one who lives for the vain and superficial things of life lacks something worse than bread; he is devoid of understanding.

Introduction to Proverbs 12:12-14

The contrast between sensible labours and worthless pursuits (vv.9-11) leads to the images of what each path produces. Where one who covets illegitimate spoil (v.12a) will be trapped by his own transgression (v.13a), the labour of the righteous takes root, bears fruit (v.12b and v.14a), and leads in a path that ultimately escapes from trouble (v.13b). The fact that the work of a man's hand comes back to him (v.14b) is thus either a blessing or a curse, depending on the character of the person and the nature of the work: <<*The perverse get what their ways deserve, and the good, what their deeds deserve*>> (Proverbs 14:14).

- ¹² The wicked covet the proceeds of wickedness,
but the root of the righteous bears fruit.

Proverbs 12:12

The wicked covet the proceeds of wickedness. It is in the nature of the wicked to covet what others have, even if it is the 'earnings' of evil men. In this they sin in the covetousness and the longing for what has been gained by evil men.

The root of the righteous bears fruit. God's righteous men and woman do not need to covet that which evil men have acquired, because they are like fruit-bearing trees: <<*I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing*>> (John 15:5). This comes from their very root, from who they truly are.

- ¹³ The evil are ensnared by the transgression of their lips,
but the righteous escape from trouble.

Proverbs 12:13

The evil are ensnared by the transgression of their lips. What a wicked person says, i.e. the transgression of their lips, will eventually get them into trouble. It will become a snare they are trapped in. Clarke noted, “A man who deals in lies and false oaths will sooner or later be found out to his own ruin. There is another proverb as true as this: A liar had need of a good memory; for as the truth is not in him, he says and unsays, and often contradicts himself.”

The righteous escape from trouble. The righteous man or woman will certainly experience trouble, but will come through it. As Jesus said: <<*I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!*>> (John 16:33).

- 14 From the fruit of the mouth one is filled with good things,
and manual labour has its reward.

Proverbs 12:14

From the fruit of the mouth one is filled with good things. A righteous man finds blessing comes to his life by what he says, i.e. the fruit of his mouth: <<*From the fruit of their words good people eat good things, but the desire of the treacherous is for wrongdoing*>> (Proverbs 13:2). His good, kind, and encouraging words will bring life to himself as well as to others.

Manual labour has its reward. A man will receive what he has worked for, whether it be for good or evil: <<*The perverse get what their ways deserve, and the good, what their deeds deserve*>> (Proverbs 14:14). God’s judgements are true and fitting.

- 15 Fools think their own way is right,
but the wise listen to advice.

Proverbs 12:15

In Proverbs, one who is right or wise in their own way sees no need to seek instruction or counsel from others and is thus also unwilling to listen to reproof. Proverbs strongly warns against this: <<*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil*>> (Proverbs 3:5-7), because no one is immune to self-deception: <<*All one’s ways may be pure in one’s own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit*>> (Proverbs 16:2), and: <<*All deeds are right in the sight of the doer, but the Lord weighs the heart*>> (Proverbs 21:2), which can lead to the

nearly hopeless state of having a hard heart: <<*Do you see persons wise in their own eyes? There is more hope for fools than for them*>> (Proverbs 26:12).

Such self-reliance and belief in human wisdom over divine will has led to problems throughout human history, including those who are fully aware of the Lord's requirements. This was especially evident in the records of Israel's judges: <<*In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes*>> (Judges 17:6 and 21:25).

The wise listen to advice. The wise man or woman understand the value of counsel and does not look only to what is right in his own eyes. The wise person understands that is helpful to get another set of 'eyes' on one's way.

Introduction to Proverbs 12:16-23

The fool's perspective of being 'right in his own eyes' (v.15) is illustrated here in his speech, which is contrasted with that of the wise. The section is framed by reference to the actions of the prudent and the fool (v.16 and v.23). The fool quickly spills forth the vexation (v.16) in his heart (v.23), where the prudent ignores the intended effect of an insult (v.16) because his heart ignores or conceals (v.23) knowledge of the bad effects of such speech (v.18); so he shrugs the insult off. The section reinforces the teaching of Proverbs that a person's speech comes out from the heart (v.17 and v.20), and that the Lord is the one who knows both and finds them accordingly either an abomination or a delight (vv.21-22).

¹⁶ Fools show their anger at once,
but the prudent ignore an insult.

Proverbs 12:16

Fools show their anger at once. The fool does not have the self-control to wait and let the immediate anger pass before making a response. The fool does most things out of impulse without thought, usually to their own cost: <<*Surely vexation kills the fool, and jealousy slays the simple*>> (Job 5:2).

The prudent ignore an insult. The wise and prudent man knows that there are many times when the right thing to do is to cover shame. They thoughtfully respond to situations instead of making an immediate, impulsive response: <<*A fool gives full vent to anger, but the wise quietly holds it back*>> (Proverbs 29:11).

¹⁷ Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence,
but a false witness speaks deceitfully.

Proverbs 12:17

Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence. The words of the wise are filled with truth and therefore reflect God's righteousness.

A false witness speaks deceitfully. The false witness does not speak the truth, and promotes deceit instead of righteousness, as did those who wrongly testified against Jesus: <<*Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, 'This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days"'*>> (Matthew 26:59-61), and those who testified against Stephen: <<*They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, 'This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us'*>> (Acts 6:12-14), and those who testified against Paul before Felix: <<*When Paul had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying: 'Your Excellency, because of you we have long enjoyed peace, and reforms have been made for this people because of your foresight. We welcome this in every way and everywhere with utmost gratitude. But, to detain you no further, I beg you to hear us briefly with your customary graciousness. We have, in fact, found this man a pestilent fellow, an agitator among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. He even tried to profane the temple, and so we seized him. By examining him yourself you will be able to learn from him concerning everything of which we accuse him.'* The Jews also joined in the charge by asserting that all this was true>> (Acts 24:2-9).

- 18 Rash words are like sword thrusts,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 12:18

Some people's normal speech pattern is constantly to accuse, belittle, manipulate, mock, insult, or condemn, and their rash words hurt other people and feel like sword thrusts. This is opposite of the way of wisdom taught in Proverbs, for the tongue of the wise brings healing: <<*Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear*>> (Ephesians 4:29).

- 19 Truthful lips endure for ever,
but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

Proverbs 12:19

Truthful lips endure for ever. God looks after those who love the truth and speak the truth. Under his blessing, they will be established forever.

A lying tongue lasts only a moment. It often seems that the lying tongue wins the day and is stronger than the truthful lip. The judgements of the God of truth will show how temporary the success of the lying tongue is. In realisation of this the psalmist cried out: <<*Deliver me, O Lord, from lying lips, from a deceitful tongue*>> (Psalm 120:2). Clarke commented, “Truth stands for ever; because its foundation is indestructible: but falsehood may soon be detected; and, though it gains credit for a while, it had that credit because it was supposed to be truth.”

²⁰ Deceit is in the mind of those who plan evil,
but those who counsel peace have joy.

Proverbs 12:20

Deceit is in the mind of those who plan evil. Those who devise evil and practice it have deceit in their heart before it is ever evident in their actions. There is something corrupt in their core that finds expression outwardly.

Those who counsel peace have joy. There is a happiness and contentment, i.e. Christian joy, which comes to those who speak words of peace. This *shalom* is within the counsellors of peace, and so they are able to give it to others.

Peace embraces the Hebrew word *shalom* in all its fullness. *Shalom*, has a much richer connotation than the English word does, since it conveys, not merely the absence of conflict and turmoil, but also the notion of positive blessing, especially in terms of a right relationship with God, and, as a result, the idea that ‘all is well’ in one’s life. This may be manifested most clearly amid persecution and tribulation. It is a gift given by Jesus to his followers: <<*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid*>> (John 14:27).

²¹ No harm happens to the righteous,
but the wicked are filled with trouble.

Proverbs 12:21

God’s righteous men and women will certainly experience trouble. Yet God promises to manage the degree of trouble, the duration of trouble, and the depth of the trouble: <<*No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you*>>

may be able to endure it>> (1 Corinthians 10:13). Especially seen in light of eternity, no harm happens to the righteous.

The wicked are filled with trouble. In contrast, the wicked will receive the result of their wickedness. They will not be rescued from their trouble; because they pursued evil, they will be filled with trouble.

²² Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord,
but those who act faithfully are his delight.

Proverbs 12:22

Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord. The God of truth loves the truth, and regards the lips that spread lies as offensive; indeed, he regards them as an abomination. God's law required his people to tell the truth: <<*When any of you sin in that you have heard a public adjuration to testify and – though able to testify as one who has seen or learned of the matter – do not speak up, you are subject to punishment*>> (Leviticus 5:1).

Those who act faithfully are his delight. The same God who regards lies as an abomination takes delight in those who value and tell the truth. Wisdom's lesson is plain: stop lying and start telling the truth.

For other references to what is either an abomination to the Lord or his delight, refer to Proverbs 11:1, 11:20, and 15:8.

²³ One who is clever conceals knowledge,
but the mind of a fool broadcasts folly.

Proverbs 12:23

One who is clever conceals knowledge. It is a mark of wisdom and prudence to not reveal all that one knows, especially if it may harm or disgrace others: <<*The wise lay up knowledge, but the babbling of a fool brings ruin near*>> (Proverbs 10:14).

The mind of a fool broadcasts folly. The wise man or woman knows restraint, but the fool does not. It is in the nature of fools to proclaim their foolishness: <<*My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness*>> (Psalm 38:5). What is in the heart will eventually be revealed: <<*And he said, 'It is what comes out of a person that defiles. For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person'*>> (Mark 7:20-23).

Introduction to Proverbs 12:24-28

Adding to the contrast of the previous section regarding prudent and foolish speech, these verses contrast the related actions of one who is diligent (v.24a and v.27b), and one who is slothful (v.24b and v.27a).

- ²⁴ The hand of the diligent will rule,
while the lazy will be put to forced labour.

Proverbs 12:24

The hand of the diligent will rule. This is both according to the blessing of God, who rewards the diligent, and the nature of the world and society: <<***A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich***>> (Proverbs 10:4). Hard working people achieve and often rise up to positions of leadership.

While the lazy will be put to forced labour. Because he is unfit to rule over others or even himself, the lazy man will be ruled over by others. The Hebrew word translated lazy here is literally ‘deceitful.’

- ²⁵ Anxiety weighs down the human heart,
but a good word cheers it up.

Proverbs 12:25

Anxiety weighs down the human heart. Solomon considered an inward cause of depression: <<***A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken***>> (Proverbs 15:13). It may come from fear and anxiety within a man or woman’s heart. This is why God so often tells his people to be anxious for nothing: <<***Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?***>> (Matthew 6:25), and: <<***Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God***>> (Philippians 4:6), and to pray about everything: <<***Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart***>> (Luke 18:1), and: <<***Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints***>> (Ephesians 6:18).

A good word cheers it up. An anxious heart can be helped by a simple good word. Encouragement costs little from the one who gives it but can do enormous good for the one who receives it.

Think of the many times Jesus spoke a simple good word and made others glad:

- <<When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven’>> (Mark 2:5).
- <<Then he said to her, ‘Your sins are forgiven’>> (Luke 7:48).
- <<He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace’>> (Luke 8:48).
- <<And Jesus said, ‘Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again’>> (John 8:11b).

Simple words of encouragement can encourage and guide beyond all imagination as Clarke pointed out, “A single good or favourable word will remove despondency.”

²⁶ The righteous gives good advice to friends,
but the way of the wicked leads astray.

Proverbs 12:26

The righteous gives good advice to friends. This is good advice for both the righteous and those who have the wisdom to seek after righteousness. It has been rightly said, “show me your friends and I will show you your future.”

The way of the wicked leads astray. Bad friends can have a significant impact for evil and many people have been led astray towards the way of the wicked because of unwise and undiscerning friendships. The power of friendship can also work for good, and good friends can help one on the way of wisdom.

In many ways the Israelites were led astray by their grumbling amongst each other rather than turning to the Lord in praise for what he was doing for them> This naturally angered God: <<For forty years I loathed that generation and said, ‘They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways’>> (Psalm 95:10). Sadly, their attitude and actions have been repeated by many of the Lord’s people throughout history.

²⁷ The lazy do not roast their game,
but the diligent obtain precious wealth.

Proverbs 12:27

The lazy do not roast their game. Using a somewhat humorous illustration, Solomon showed that the lazy man does not finish the job. He went to all the trouble of hunting and capturing the prey, but will never enjoy the fruit of his work because he is too lazy to even cook it properly.

The diligent obtain precious wealth. There are many precious things a man or woman can have, but diligence is near the top of the list. Many great things are accomplished with little talent but great diligence.

²⁸ In the path of righteousness there is life,
in walking its path there is no death.

Proverbs 12:28

In the path of righteousness there is life. It is a common belief that the way of righteousness is boring or unpleasant. This is a deception from the world, the flesh, and the devil. The truth is that in the path of righteousness is life, as Jesus said: <<*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly*>> (John 10:10).

In walking its path there is no death. The life righteousness brings is not only for the present, but also for eternity. Those who walk in the path of righteousness will receive and know eternal life, beginning now into eternity.