

## Small Lessons Proverbs 30:24-28

Look for and want to do big things, often many little things go unnoticed.

Some brethren are so obsessed with the "big campaign" that they are not satisfied with plain simple Gospel preaching on a smaller scale.

If we overlook the little things, we miss some great lessons.

What lessons can we glean from these little creatures?

### The Ant – Preparation (25)

Diligent preparation

More than once the wise man uses the ant to teach lessons

*Proverbs 6:6-8* Go to the ant, O sluggard, Observe her ways and be wise, Which, having no chief, Officer or ruler, Prepares her food in the summer And gathers her provision in the harvest

No more industrious insect than the ant; not even the honeybee.

None born tired; no drones, slackers or shirkers; The ant has one motto: work

Christians can/should profit from the ant's wisdom - Should work during summer of life

*Proverbs 10:5* He who gathers in summer is a son who acts wisely, But he who sleeps in harvest is a son who acts shamefully.

*Jeremiah 8:20* "Harvest is past, summer is ended, And we are not saved."

Lost opportunity will be regretted

*Ecclesiastes 12:1* Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight in them";

### The Conies – Refuge (26)

*Psalms 104:18* The high mountains are for the wild goats; The cliffs are a refuge for the Hyrax.

Found in mountains of Lebanon and valleys of Jordan and Dead Sea

Helpless, defenseless, perhaps become extinct except for refuge - Cleft of rock is nature's safest refuge

Present day building rubble attracting – "fill in rubble they will leave"

God has been man's refuge since the beginning

*Psalms 46:1* God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble

*Psalms 94:22* But the Lord has been my stronghold, And my God the rock of my refuge.

Christ is our rock and our refuge

*Jeremiah 10:23* I know, O Lord, that a man's way is not in himself, Nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps.

Our refuge must not be:

*Isaiah 28:15* Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, And with Sheol we have made a pact. The overwhelming scourge will not reach us when it passes by, For we have made falsehood our refuge and we have concealed ourselves with deception."

*2Corinthians 1:9* indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;

*1Timothy 6:17* Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

Our refuge is body of Christ - established on sure foundation (bed rock)

*Matthew 16:18* I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

*Acts 4:11* He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the chief corner stone.

*Ephesians 2:20* having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,

*1Peter 2:4-5* And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Outside this refuge we are lost like the Coney

Song - "He Hideth My Soul"

### The Locust – Unity & Cooperation (27)

Unity and Cooperation

*Exodus 10:14-15* The locusts came up over all the land of Egypt and settled in all the territory of Egypt; they were very numerous. There had never been so many locusts, nor would there be so many again. For they covered the surface of the whole land, so that the land was darkened; and they ate every plant of the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. Thus nothing green was left on tree or plant of the field through all the land of Egypt.

Locusts have no king, yet have order and discipline and can sweep over land like invasion of a great army.

Lessons for the Church

Our strength is dissipated in division

*Matthew 12:25* And knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself will not stand.

*1Corinthians 1:10* Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Doesn't mean we must see eye to eye on matters of expediencies

Make allowances for differences in spiritual growth  
On matters of faith we must try to be united  
If the locust can cooperate without a king surely we can with an unchanging and perfect one

### **The Spider/Lizard – Fearless Labor & Perseverance (28)**

Fearless labor and perseverance

Not afraid even in king's palace

If spider fails, he tries again and again

Illus. King of Scotland lost 6 battles against English. He retired to his hut despondent over Scotland's future and there watched a spider trying to throw a thread from one beam to another. Six times he failed - succeeded the seventh time!!

Our need for perseverance and courage (Tenacity)

**Matthew 10:28** *Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

**Matthew 24:13** *But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.*

**Matthew 25:14-30** *Must use ability not hide it*

### **Wisdom from these little creatures**

Take advantage of opportunity in "summer"

**2Corinthians 6:2** *...Behold, now is "the acceptable time," behold, now is "the day of salvation"*

Take refuge in Christ (rock)

**Galatians 3:27** *For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

Cooperate with God's people

**1Corinthians 1:10** *... be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

Persevere unto the end to receive your reward

**Revelation 2:10** *... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

If not a child of God, the bible shows that we must be as "little children" and be obedient