

**SPIRITUAL
SLOTHFULNESS**

PROVERBS 26:13-16

SLOTH

THE SIN THAT NEEDS NO EFFORT

Proverbs 26:13-16 The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets. ¹⁴ As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed. ¹⁵ The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth. ¹⁶ The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

Sluggard: a lazy person. Slothfulness: laziness. Lazy: disinclined to activity or exertion.

A. Makes Excuses. [Something offered as justification or as grounds for being excused.]

Proverbs 26:13 The **slothful** man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.

Proverbs 20:4 The **sluggard** will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

Luke 14:16-24 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: ¹⁷ And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. ¹⁸ And they all **with one consent began to make excuse.** (1) The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.

(2) ¹⁹ And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. (3) ²⁰ And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. ²¹ So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.

B. Procrastinates. [To put off intentionally the doing of something that should be done.]

Proverbs 26:14 As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the **slothful** upon his bed.

Proverbs 13:4 The soul of the **sluggard** desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

Proverbs 21:25 The desire of the **slothful** killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.

Desire: *ta'avah*: wait longingly, wish for.

Romans 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

Proverbs 6:6-11 Go to the ant, thou **sluggard**; consider her ways, and be wise: ⁷ Which having **no guide**, **overseer**, or **ruler**, ⁸ Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. ⁹ How long wilt thou sleep, O **sluggard**? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? ¹⁰ Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: ¹¹ So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

- Guide: The Bible
- Overseer: Holy Spirit & your conscience.
- Ruler: Pastor

Hebrews 13:7 Remember them which have the **rule over you**, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have the **rule over you**, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Rule: *hēgeomai*. To lead, to go before, to have authority over.

English: hegemony. Influence or authority over others.

C. Is Lazy. [Disinclined to activity or exertion.]

Proverbs 26:15 The **slothful** hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.

Proverbs 21:25 The desire of the **slothful** killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.

Desire: *ta'avah*: wait longingly, wish for.

Proverbs 10:26 As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so is the **sluggard** to them that send him.

D. Is Deceived. [To cause to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid.]

Proverbs 26:16 The **sluggard** is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

Conceit: *ayin*. Of physical eye.

Proverbs 21:2 Every way of a man is right in **his own eyes** : but the Lord pondereth the hearts.

Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Deceived: *planaō*. To cause to stray, to lead astray, lead aside from the right way.

CONCLUSION:

Proverbs 24:30-34 I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; ³¹ And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down. ³² Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction. ³³ Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: ³⁴ So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

- It will come in this life.
- And, more importantly, it will come in the next life either at the Great White Throne judgment or at The Judgment Seat of Christ.