**Proverbs 22:10-16** <sup>10</sup>Drive out the mocker, and conflict will depart; even quarreling and insults will cease. <sup>11</sup>He who loves a pure heart and gracious lips will have the king for a friend. <sup>12</sup>The LORD's eyes keep watch over knowledge, but He frustrates the words of the faithless. <sup>13</sup>The slacker says, "There is a lion outside! I will be slain in the streets!" <sup>14</sup>The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit; he who is under the wrath of the LORD will fall into it. <sup>15</sup>Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him. <sup>16</sup>Oppressing the poor to enrich oneself or giving gifts to the rich will surely lead to poverty. (BSB)

**Intro:** There is a current battle between two philosophies of human nature.

- 1. Mankind is born basically **good**.
- Mankind is born with a bent for evil.
- I. Here are the details of this passage.
  - A. Dealing with the divisive person is key in resolving *conflict*. V. 10
  - B. People in <u>authority</u> like being friendly with kind worded people who have pure motives. V. 11
  - C. <u>Character</u> is important when imparting knowledge to others. V. 12
  - **D.** Fear of the **possible** should not be used as an excuse for not doing what we know that we should be doing. V. 13
  - **E.** Sexual sin is a <u>trap</u> for those who are under the wrath of God. V. 14
  - **F.** We are born with a bent toward *foolishness*. Loving discipline is essential in raising godly children. V. 15
  - G. God demands fairness from His people. We will reap what we sow. V. 16
- **II.** Let's pray through every verse and seek God for wisdom in these areas.