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The Autopsy of a Hard Heart

Pastor Ken Sistrunk

Proverbs 28:14-20 ¹⁴Blessed is the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble. ¹⁵Like a roaring lion or a charging bear is a wicked ruler over a helpless people. ¹⁶A leader who lacks judgment is also a great oppressor, but he who hates dishonest profit will prolong his days. ¹⁷A man burdened by bloodguilt will flee into the Pit; let no one support him. ¹⁸He who walks with integrity will be kept safe, but whoever is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall. ¹⁹The one who works his land will have plenty of food, but whoever chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty. ²⁰A faithful man will abound with blessings, but one eager to be rich will not go unpunished. (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. Lack of fear of the LORD and His word will lead to a **hard** heart that leads to all kinds of **trouble**. V. 14
- B. Wicked leaders are **oppressive** to those to whom they are supposed to help and support. V. 15-16
- C. We must resist **toxic** compassion. V. 17
- D. Walking in integrity is a great **protection** of our heart, however, a perverse walk leads to a sudden collapse. V. 18
- E. A good **work ethic** will lead to prosperity, however, chasing fantasies will lead to poverty. V. 19-20

II. Let's spend some time praying through each verse and let's pray for God to give us healthy hearts.