

Lessons From Little Creatures

Prov.30:24-28

- From The ANTS
- From The CONIES
- From The LOCUSTS
- From The SPIDER

While we look for **BIG** things, often **IMPORTANT** little ones go UNnoticed.

When that happens, we may **MISS** some **GREAT** lessons.

Little Creatures can **TEACH** us and **INFLUENCE** us.

Thus the title of the message, "**Lessons From Little Creatures**" (Prov.30:24-28)

Let's notice some lesson's,

I. From The Ant: To Make Preparation Now

- "the **ANTS** are a people **NOT** strong, yet they **PREPARE** their meat in the **SUMMER**;" (reads [Prov.30:25](#))

A. Most people do not seem to Anticipate Future Needs for inner self So, the importance of providing for them NOW is Overlooked.

B. Consider the foresight taught, by the Ant

- "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**." ([Prov.6:6-8](#))

C. Let us profit by their Wisdom, and use the summer of NOW to pre-prepare for, the eternity we cannot escape, and the approach of which, we cannot delay.

- "it is **APPOINTED** unto men once to **DIE**, but after this the **JUDGMENT**;" ([Heb.9:27](#))
- "So then **EVERY ONE** of us, shall **Give ACCOUNT** of himself **TO God**." ([Rom.14:12](#))

The earlier we begin, the more time for service, we will have.

- "**REMEMBER** now thy **CREATOR** in the days of thy youth, **WHILE** the evil days come **NOT**, **NOR** the years draw **NIGH**, when thou shalt say, I have **NO** pleasure in them;" ([Ecc.12:1](#))

Be aware: The present is the only time we have.

- "behold, **NOW** is the accepted time; behold, **NOW** is the day of salvation." ([2Cor.6:2b](#))
- "Whatsoever thy hand **FINDETH** to do, **DO** it with thy **MIGHT**; for there is **NO** work, **NOR** device, **NOR** knowledge, **NOR** wisdom, **IN** the **GRAVE**, whither thou **GOest**." ([Ecc.9:10](#))

It will be Unspeakably **SAD** for us, to Leave **UNPREPARED**.

In the first century, the Bible speaks of those,

- Who were “**withOUT Christ**, being **ALIENS** from the commonwealth of **Israel**, and **STRANGERS** from the covenants of **Promise**, having **NO Hope**, and **withOUT God** in the world:” ([Eph.2:12](#))
- “The harvest is **PAST**, the summer is **ENDED**, and we are **NOT SAVED**.” ([Jer.8:20](#))

For the **PREPARED**, there will be Great **JOY**.

- They will hear, “**WELL Done**, thou **GOOD** and faithful **SERVANT**: thou hast been **FAITHFUL** over a few things, I will make thee **RULER** over many things: **ENTER** thou into the **JOY** of thy lord.” ([Matt.25:21](#))

Lesson’s From Little Creatures...

Consider Some Lesson’s

II. From The **CONIES**: To Seek A Sure Refuge

- “the **CONIES** are but a **FEEBLE** folk, yet make they, their houses in the **ROCKS**;” ([Prov.30:26](#))

A. A Cony – Helpless and defenseless (Feeble folk), Is a small guinea pig-like, or rabbit-like creature.

B. But they can SURVIVE in the security of nature’s Refuge -- ROCKS.

C. We, by Ourselves, are Spiritually Helpless.

- Jeremiah said long ago, “O Lord, I know that the **WAY** of man is **NOT** in himself: it is **NOT** in man that **WALKETH**, to direct his **STEPS**.” ([Jer.10:23](#))

When we Turn **FROM** God, we become **EASY** prey for the **ENEMY**.

- So we should, “Be **Sober**, Be **Vigilant**; because your **ADVERSARY** the devil, **AS** a roaring **LION**, walketh about, **SEEKING** whom he may **DEVOUR**.” ([1Pet.5:8](#))

We will not, and cannot find refuge in self.

- “we had the sentence of **DEATH** in **OURSELVES**, that we should **NOT** trust in **OURSELVES**, but (trust) **IN God** which **RAISETH** the dead.” ([2Cor.1:9](#))
- “He that **TRUSTETH** in his **OWN** heart is a **FOOL**.” (reads [Prov.28:26a](#))

We cannot find refuge in wealth.

- “He that **TRUSTETH** in his **RICHES** shall **FALL**.” (reads [Prov.11:28a](#))
- Paul told Timothy, “**CHARGE** them that are **RICH** in this world, that they **BE NOT** highminded, **NOR TRUST** in uncertain **RICHES**, but (trust) **IN the LIVING God**, Who **GIVETH** us richly, **ALL** things to **ENJOY**.” ([1Tim.6:17](#))

We cannot find refuge in other people either.

- “Do **NOT TRUST** in noblemen, In mortal man, in whom there is **NO** Salvation.” ([Psa.146:3](#) NASB)

D. We must turn to the Eternal One, to find help.

- “**God IS** our **REFUGE** and **STRENGTH**, a very present HELP in trouble.” ([Psa.46:1](#))
- “the Lord is my **DEFENCE**; and my **God IS** the **ROCK** of my **REFUGE**.” (reads [Psa.94:22](#))
- “**BLESSED** is the man that **TRUSTETH** in the Lord, and whose **HOPE**, the Lord **IS**.” ([Jer.17:7](#))

E. The Father made Christ our Rock.

- “therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I **LAY** in Zion for a foundation a **STONE**, a **TRIED** stone, a precious CORNER stone, a **SURE** foundation: he that believeth, shall not make haste.” ([Isa.28:16](#))
- “This is the **STONE** which was **SET** at nought of you builders, which is become the **HEAD** of the corner.¹² **NEITHER** is there salvation in any **OTHER**: for there is **NONE** other Name under heaven **GIVEN** among men, whereby we Must be **SAVED**.” ([Acts 4:11-12](#))

F. It would be tragic to come to the end, without Him.

- “for the Great DAY of His wrath is **COME**; and **WHO** shall be able to **STAND**?” ([Rev.6:17](#))

G. All will be well, for those who are IN Him.

- Jesus said, “**Whosoever** therefore shall **CONFESS** Me before men, him will I **CONFESS** also before My **FATHER** which is **IN** heaven.” ([Matt.10:32](#))
- John said, “I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, **BLESSED** are the **DEAD** which die **IN the Lord** from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may **REST** from their **LABOURS**; and their works **DO follow** them.” ([Rev.14:13](#))

Notice Some Lesson’s,

III. From The LOCUSTS: Who Go IN Unity & Cooperation

- “the **LOCUSTS** have **NO** king, yet **GO** they forth, **ALL** of them by bands;” (reads [Prov.30:27](#))

A. Be impressed with their Order and Discipline:

They can sweep over land like an invading army:

- They were so used of God, to plague Egypt (read [Ex.10:14-15](#))

B. The Locust Cooperate withOUT a King. We Can Do it WITH One!

We have a King and His guide to direct us

- God the Father, “hath put **ALL** things **UNDER** His **Feet**, and **GAVE** Him to be the **HEAD**, over **ALL** things **TO** the **CHURCH**,²³ which is **HIS** body, the **FULNESS** of Him that **FILLETH** all **IN** all.” ([Eph.1:22-23](#))
- The Psalmist said, “Thy **WORK** is a **LAMP** unto my **FEET**, and a **LIGHT** unto my **PATH**.” ([Psa.119:105](#))
- Paul said, “Those things, which ye have both Learned, and Received, and Heard, and Seen in me, **DO**: and the **God of Peace** shall be **WITH** you.” ([Phil.4:9](#))

Locust have instinct, but man must have the desire and will, to respond.

- Jesus said, “Thou shalt **LOVE** the Lord thy God with **ALL** thy Heart, and with **ALL** thy Soul, and with **ALL** thy Mind.” ([Matt.22:37](#))

Truly, we need to benefit in our unity.

- “For **AS** we have **MANY** members in **ONE** body, and **ALL** members have **NOT** the same office:⁵ so we, being **MANY**, are **ONE** body **IN** Christ, and every one, **MEMBERS** one of another.” ([Rom.12:4-5](#))
- “and Let us **CONSIDER** one another to **PROVOKE** unto Love and to **GOOD** Works.” ([Heb.10:24](#))

Now Notice,

IV. The SPIDER’s Lesson: Where Perseverance is Rewarded.

- “the **SPIDER** Taketh **HOLD** with her **HANDS**, and is **IN** kings’ palaces.” ([Prov.30:28](#))

A. The Spider TAKETH HOLD: With Fearless work, even in a king’s castle.

B. Watch a spider -- If it Fails, it Tries again and again.

C. The Kind of Perseverance We Need,

is the Kind that is Marked by the Courage to Do Right “All Summer Long”

- “So then, my beloved, just as you have **ALWAYS OBEYED**, **NOT** as in my presence **ONLY**, but now much **MORE** in my absence, **WORK** out your **OWN** salvation with **FEAR** and **TREMBLING**.” ([Phil.2:12](#))
- “**PRESS** toward the **MARK**, for the **PRIZE** of the High **CALLING** of God **IN** Christ Jesus.” ([Phil.3:14](#))

We Need to **PERSEVERE**, and **DO** what is Right, **EVEN** in the face of **DANGER**, and **IN SPITE** of danger.

- “**WHAT** shall we then **SAY** to these things? **IF** God be **FOR** us, **WHO** can be **AGAINST** us?” ([Rom.8:31](#))
- “**LET** your Conversation (that is, your manner of living) be without covetousness; and Be **CONTENT** with such things **AS** ye **HAVE**: for he hath said, I will **NEVER** leave thee, **NOR** forsake thee.
⁶ So that we may **BOLDLY** say, The Lord **IS** my **HELPER**, and I will **NOT** fear, **WHAT** man shall **DO** unto me.” ([Heb.13:5-6](#))

“But I **CAN’T** do great things”, some say.

We **DON’T** have to: According to personal **ABILITY**, is all that is **REQUIRED** of us.

- “For **IF** there be first a **WILLING** mind, it is **ACCEPTED** according to that a man **HATH**, and **NOT** according to that he hath not.” ([2Cor.8:12](#))

Let us never be backward and weak-hearted.

- Because “we are **NOT** of them, who draw **BACK** unto perdition;” ([Heb.10:39a](#))

Blessed are the persistent.

- Who are “**OF** them that **BELIEVE**, to the **SAVING** of the **SOUL**.” ([Heb.10:39b](#))
- “Receiving the **END** of your Faith, even the **SALVATION** of your souls.” ([1Pet.1:9](#))

V. IN-CONCLUSION

Faithfulness is a personal responsibility (MINE / YOURS)

- John said, “I saw the **DEAD**, small and great, **STAND** before God; and the **BOOKS** were opened: and **ANOTHER** book was **OPENED**, which is the book of **LIFE**: and the *dead* were **JUDGED** out of those things, which were **WRITTEN** in the books, **ACCORDING** to their works.” ([Rev.20:12](#))

So, we are Thankful to **LEARN** from little creatures.

- “**NOT** slothful in business; (but) **FERVENT** in spirit; **SERVING** the Lord;” ([Rom.12:11](#))
- “Wherefore we **LABOUR**, that, whether present **OR** absent, we may be **ACCEPTED** of Him.” ([2Cor.5:9](#))

Take advantage while there is time (the **ANT** teaches) . . .

Of refuge in the Rock of Ages (the **CONY** teaches) . . .

Cooperate with God’s people (the **LOCUST** teaches) . . .

Persevere unto the reward (the **SPIDER** teaches).

There is no better time to begin

- “Wherefore he saith, **AWAKE** thou that sleepest, and **ARISE** from the dead, and Christ shall **GIVE** thee **LIGHT**.” ([Eph.5:14](#))
- “**REDEEMING** the Time, because the days are evil.” ([Eph.5:16](#))
- “And now **WHY** tarriest thou (that is, why wait)? **ARISE**, and Be **BAPTIZED**, and **WASH AWAY** thy sins, **CALLING** on the **Name** of the Lord.” ([Acts 22:16](#))

If you have NEED, please **COME**, as TOGETHER, we stand and sing!

Source: Sermon Outline by Derrel Shaw
His Sources: W. Curtis Porter; My original outline (sources unknown).
Edited & Formatted: by Michael Wright