

## 98-08-23b

Little things do make a big difference. It makes a difference if you're faithful in that which is least, or if you're not. And so, to scoff and to mock at sin, this is often the tact that it takes.

Well, this is a minor thing. This is an inconsequential thing. It is not.

So we find this in Proverbs 14 and verse 9. Turn a few pages over to Proverbs 19 and verse 28. A disreputable witness scorns justice, belittles it, makes light of it, disregards it, thinks it isn't important. Well, in this particular case, the means justifies the end.

A disreputable witness scorns justice, and the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity. This means swallows it down. Typically, if something is bad, you don't eat it.

Your taste buds tell you, your digestion tells you, this is a bad thing, don't eat it. But, the mouth of the wicked will devour iniquity. Even though it's bad, it'll just swallow it on down.

It doesn't distinguish. It doesn't pay any attention to the taste. If you turn back to Proverbs chapter 3, this is where we'll pause here for our break this morning.

Look back at Proverbs chapter 3, verse 32. The perverse person is an abomination to the Lord, but his secret counsel is with the upright. The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the just.

Surely he scorns the scornful. God can be a scorner as well. If you disregard and make light of God and the things of God, God will disregard and make light of you.

That's what this passage says. Surely he scorns the scornful, but he gives grace to the humble. It reminds us of James, who quotes a form of this passage.

God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble. And we get some insight into this scornful attitude here. We're going to pause and take our break.

When we come back, we'll conclude our study of the blessed man. What he stays away from and what he adheres to. We'll see the connection of these principles to our passage in Genesis.

And we'll move forward to see the antecedents of the first great patriarch of Israel, Abraham.