



Today's Message

Date: February 22, 2015
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***Keeping The Peace***

Text: Proverbs 6:12–15 (ESV)

<p>¹² A worthless person, a wicked man, goes about with crooked speech, ¹³ winks with his eyes, signals with his feet, points with his finger, ¹⁴ with perverted heart devises evil, continually sowing discord; ¹⁵ therefore calamity will come upon him suddenly; in a moment he will be broken beyond healing.</p>

Introduction: In the opening verses of the sixth chapter of Proverbs we find a series of descriptions of those who travel the path of the fool: the debtor, the lazy man, and the troublemaker. Today we will focus on this last individual. Solomon described the troublemaker's character and his final end, but offers no positive counsel. The Scriptures mark the opposite path with such clarity that Solomon did not need to elaborate. Those who follow the path of wisdom love their neighbor because they love the Lord.

Today's take-home truth: Fools don't love others because they don't love God; the wise love God, so they also love others.

I. The fool is a troublemaker. 6:12-15

- A. His character: He is "good for nothing," 12a
- B. His activity: 12b-14a

1. Spreading deceit, . . . 12b
 2. Enlisting others, . . . 13
 3. And plotting harm, . . . 14a
- C. His goal: in order to unleash division. 14b
- D. His end: So God will bring him to a disastrous end:
15
1. An end he does not expect.
 2. An end he cannot change.

II. The wise are peacemakers.

- A. The wise love God . . . Matthew 22:36-38
- B. So they also love others. Matthew 22:39-40