TRAGEDIES that lead to WISDOM



(Prov. 30:21) Under three things the earth trembles,
Under four it cannot bear up.

*Earth = <u>human</u> <u>society</u>, <u>community</u>

(Prov. 30:22-23)

- √ a servant who becomes a king
- √ a fool who is full of food
- √ an unloved woman who is married
- √ a maid servant who displaces her mistress

servant > king = lack of preparation

fool > food = lack of <u>purpose</u>

(unloved) woman > married = lack of appreciation

Advancement/Promotion can be a triumph or tragedy!

If you seek advancement, these items should occupy your attention.

SKILL (preparation)

* Do you see a man skilled in his work?

He will not serve before obscure

men, but will serve before kings.

(Prov. 22:29)

INTEGRITY (character)

* I put Shelemiah, Zadok, and Pedaiah in charge of the storerooms and made Hanan their assistant because I considered these men trustworthy. They were made responsible for the distributing and supplies. (Nehemiah 13:13)

PATIENCE (trust in God... timing, purpose, etc.)

 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.
 Acknowledge him in everything, and he will direct your path.

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

Full of food, but clueless in purpose (foolish) is a description of wasted <u>time</u> and <u>talent</u>.

Lack of ambition or idleness is a tragedy and everything important cries out against it! *Idleness* is quite different from *rest, relaxation, or recreation*.

To live life without a vision of usefulness/service is simply to be a "well fed fool."

To be married and not loved is so unbearable that it will lead either to <u>anguish</u> or <u>anger!</u>

This tragedy is <u>preventable</u> by simply doing the <u>work</u> of love!

Love sincerely! Be <u>devoted</u> to one another... <u>honor</u> the other above yourself. (Romans 12)

Love... always protects, always hopes, always perseveres (1 Cor. 13)

EXPERIENCE a tragedy in order to become wise. I can do so by observing and learning!

The lessons are there.. am I <u>humble</u> enough to receive them?

A prudent man <u>sees</u> danger and <u>takes</u> refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it. (*Prov. 22:3*)