"The Prayer in Proverbs"

"The human spirit can endure a sick body, but who can bear it if the spirit is crushed?""

(Proverbs 18:14 NQT)

Agur's Anguish

<u>Proverbs 30:1-3</u> – (1) "The words of Agur son of Jakeh. The oracle. The man (*valiant warrior*) declares, I am weary, O God; I am weary, O God, and worn out. (2) Surely I am too stupid to be a man. I have not the understanding of a man. (3) I have not learned wisdom, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One."

Asking for Answers

<u>Proverbs 30:4</u> — "Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son's name? Surely you know!"

Jesus is the Answer to our Overwhelmed Hearts

Assurance from Above

<u>Proverbs 30:5-6</u> – (5) "Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. (6) Do not add to his words, lest he rebuke you and you be found a liar."

Agur's Appeal

Proverbs 30:7-9 – (7) "Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die:

(1) Substance/Reality

(8) Remove far from me falsehood and lying;

(2) Supply/Resources

...give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me,

(9) lest I be full and deny you and say, 'Who is the LORD?' or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God."

Daily Reality Checks:

(1) Transform the Mind by Truth

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

(2) Be at Peace, God will Provide

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." (Philippians 4:19-20)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I renewing my mind with God's truth so that I am not overcome with deception from my heart and the world? (John 8:31-32; Jer. 17:9; 1 John 4:1)

Do I tend to stress about provision (i.e. money)? (Matt. 6:25-34; Phil. 4:6-7)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)