

JUST ENOUGH

-Ryan Parsons-

Once, as I rode my bike around the block, I drove past a group of boys who were a little older. We knew each other, but we weren't exactly friends. On this particular day, they called out to me as a friend and peer. Stopping to speak to them, I was quickly lured into their makeshift ring to don boxing gloves for a friendly round. I remember the moment my hand sunk into the second glove, and my opponent was charging towards me. I also vividly remember the pop to my nose that made my eyes water and head ring.

I felt that same pop when I opened up to Proverbs 30 this morning. I didn't know exactly what to expect as I sipped my coffee and began consuming the words, but the nose of my soul got jabbed leaving my eyes watering and my soul ringing.

Proverbs 30:5-9

Every word of God proves true;

he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

Do not add to his words,

lest he rebuke you and you be found a liar.

Two things I ask of you;

deny them not to me before I die:

Remove far from me falsehood and lying;

give me neither poverty nor riches;

feed me with the food that is needful for me,

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.

The most pointed words to me in this passage are Agur's prayer for two things. First, he asks God to purge him of the impurities of falsehood and lying. Second, he asks God to give him just enough. He doesn't want so much that he stops trusting in God, and he doesn't want too little that he forsakes the name of God by doing evil to acquire what he wants and needs.

How much could I benefit from Agur's attitude? Now that I think of it, isn't this the same prayer Christ taught his disciples to pray?

Luke 11:2-4

And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread,

and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation."

Father God, please give me just enough today. Enough to cleanse me from my sins and just enough to sustain me so that I can avoid sin and distractions. Lord, be my shield and refuge. Amen!

Keep Studying,

Ryan