**PROVERBS 30 CRUCIAL LESSONS FROM NATURE**

**Pro 30:1** These are the solemn words of an older wayward Baptist brother: I have lost my intimacy with the Holy Spirit "God my Father is not with me, God my Savior is not with me, and I am helpless.

Pro 30:2 I am more like an animal than a human being; I do not have the sense we humans should have.

Pro 30:3 I have never learned any real spiritual wisdom, and I know nothing at all about the majestic, lavishly generous God.

Pro 30:4 Have any ever mastered heaven’s abundant knowledge? Have any ever caught the wind in their hands? Or wrapped up water in a piece of cloth? Or fixed the boundaries of the earth? Who are they, if you know? Who are their children?

Pro 30:5 "God our generous Heavenly Father keeps every promise he makes. He is a shield for all who seek his protection.

Pro 30:6 If you break the third commandment and claim that he said something that he never said, he will reprimand you and show that you are a liar."

Pro 30:7 I ask you, God my Creator and Provider, to let me have two things before I die:

Pro 30:8 keep me from lying – the most difficult of all things, and let me be neither rich nor poor. So give me only as much food as I need for my health.

Pro 30:9 If I have more, I might say that I do not need you. But if I am poor, I might steal and bring disgrace on my benevolent God.

Pro 30:10 Never criticize workers to their boss. You will be cursed and suffer for it.

Pro 30:11 There are young Baptists who curse their fathers and pastors and do not show their appreciation for their mothers or other church members.

Pro 30:12 There are MEN who think they are pure when they are as filthy as they can be.

Pro 30:13 There are MEN who think they are so good---oh, how good they think they are!

Pro 30:14 There are MEN who take cruel advantage of the poor and needy; that is the way they make their living.

Pro 30:15 A leech or lazy brother has two daughters, and both are named "Give me!" There are four things that are never satisfied:

Pro 30:16 the world of the dead (seek long life), a woman without children (help orphans), dry ground that needs rain (evangelize abundantly), and a fire burning out of control (passion must have focus).

Pro 30:17 If you make fun of your father or despise your mother in her old age, you ought to be eaten by vultures or have your eyes picked out by wild ravens.

Pro 30:18 There are four things that are too mysterious for me to understand:

Pro 30:19 an eagle flying in the sky (the Holy Spirit’s majestic movements), a snake moving on a rock (how slimy devils manipulate), a ship finding its way over the sea (a MAN navigating his way through the sea of life), and a man and a woman falling in love (discovering “the greatest of these”).

Pro 30:20 This is how an unfaithful wife acts: she dresses provocatively to demoralize MEN and then she commits adultery, takes a bath, and says, "But I haven't done anything wrong!"

Pro 30:21 There are four things that the earth itself cannot tolerate:

Pro 30:22 a lowly employee who becomes a CEO (earn your position in life), a fool who has all he wants to eat (get wisdom first),

Pro 30:23 a hateful woman who gets married (first gain contentment), and a cleaning woman who takes the place of her mistress (build character).

Pro 30:24 There are four animals in the world that are small, but very, very clever:

Pro 30:25 Ants: they are weak, but they store up their food in the summer (know your spiritual harvest time).

Pro 30:26 Rock badgers: they are not strong either, but they make their homes among the rocks (build your home on the Bible).

Pro 30:27 Locusts: they have no king, but they move in formation (be a good team player).

Pro 30:28 Lizards: you can hold one in your hand, but you can find them in palaces (even the simplest can dwell with the King).

Pro 30:29 There are four things that are impressive to watch as they walk:

Pro 30:30 lions, strongest of all animals and afraid of none (forge ahead with courage);

Pro 30:31 goats (have a demeanor of purpose), strutting roosters (exhibit your good qualities), and kings in front of their people (lead your team).

Pro 30:32 If you have been foolish enough to be arrogant and plan evil, stop and think!

Pro 30:33 If you churn milk, you get butter. If you hit someone's nose, it bleeds. If you stir up anger, you get into trouble.