**We Have Ants In The Church**

(Proverbs 6:6-11 KJV)

***6****Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:****7****Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,****8****Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.****9****How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?****10****Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:****11****So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.*

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he book of Proverbs written by King Solomon the black son of David is all about living wisely in this world. This book touches on practical, everyday living. And today it has some valuable wisdom to share with us about idleness that has become a habit—explicitly and explosively about a person who has become a sluggard.

Whenever the next opportunity presents itself, I want you to imagine you are trying to get a good look at what happens in an anthill—because verse six says not "Look to the ant," but it informs us to "Go to the ant." This implies going to the ant for advice and counsel. That's if you want to learn ethical wisdom on how the church should function as one body.

Throughout the Bible, God uses the animal and insect kingdom to speak to man. He uses a rooster in the Gospels to preach a sermon to remind Peter of his denial of Jesus. He uses a donkey in Numbers to speak to Balaam. In Proverbs, God mentions several special members of the animal kingdom and each one is a divine sermon for you and me! And in our text our God uses a tiny creature like the ant and teach us lessons about living and working together.

Let me hurriedly say that the ant is the most successful of all social insects. There are over 11,000 different kinds of ants. They live in colonies numbering from a few to over 20 million. There are approximately 1 quadrillion ants in the world today. In addition, I must say, "That is a lot of Ants!" Ants are so numerous that scientists say that if all the ants in the Amazon rain forests were weighed, they would weigh four times more than all the other specials of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, living in that area, combined!

So! , I would like us to take a closer look into this passage for a few minutes. I believe there is much that we can learn from the ants in this special book of Proverbs. What we learn from these tiny creatures can help us become better Christians and it can help our church be more effective in the cause of Christ! Besides that, the Lord said to do it!

Now with these few thoughts in mind, let us notice some facts about the ants, and see if we have some ants here in the church amongst us. Now! Ants have a lot to teach us "God's Master Piece" about doing the Lord’s business. So, I want to preach for a while on this thought: We Have Ants in the Church!

1. **The Ants Work Is A Portrayal:**

(Proverbs 6:6 KJV)

*Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:*

The ants give a definite portrayal, partnership and passionate connotation. "Go to the ant, thou sluggard" (Proverbs 6:6). The ant is the illustration. Its smallness is a rebuke to man, for it is not a prestigious illustration but it is a practical illustration. Its organization is an example for man to follow. If you watch the ants with a spiritual microscopic view, you'll notice the ants within their piles give a prime example on how Christian worker should cooperate together.

If you focus in on the ant please notice that they work in love—no fights, they are often stepped on, sprayed on, and sprinkled salt on, but in spite of the opposing and oppressions, they still manage to work together in the unity of love. And we as the church should love as the ants love especially when work is involved.

They are helpful and help carry not only their burdens, but also they help carry someone else's burdens. Literally if you look closely at the ants many of them are carrying something to help put the mound back together once it has been disturb.

(Galatians 6:2 KJV)

*Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ*.