Just Enough to Satisfy My Needs

Sermon Date: July 22, 2012

Proverbs 30:1-9

Introduction: If you could choose, would you prefer to be wealthy or poor? For the vast majority, it seems an obvious choice, right? After all, who wants to be poor? Isn't it better to have wealth? In the sermon on Sunday, Lowell Bliss quoted famous Bible teacher, H.A. Ironside who said, "We can well understand a man praying against poverty, but it is most unusual to find one who dreads wealth and prays to be kept from riches." It is most unusual indeed, but that is exactly what we find in the passage that we are looking at today. In fact, what we find is a prayer against both poverty and wealth. May we be encouraged and challenged by the counter-cultural perspective of this proverb.

Read Proverbs 30:1-9

- 1. How would you describe your first reaction to encountering Proverbs 30:8-9?
- 2. How do other translations translate the central phrase: "Give me just enough to satisfy my needs (v. 8, New Living Translation)?" What does it look like for God to have satisfied your needs?
- 3. Lowell said that both wealth and poverty are "untrustworthy ground." How is wealth "untrustworthy ground?" How about poverty?
- 4. In what way is "just enough" trustworthy ground on which to live your life in Christ?
- 5. What questions pop into your mind about this proverb?
- 6. What did Lowell mean when he said that he is not forced to answer the many questions that this proverb causes us to ask?
- 7. What is the language of this proverb that qualifies it as a prayer? How urgent of a prayer is it for the author?
- 8. How urgent of a prayer does it feel for you?
- 9. What is your main take away from this study?