

If I Had Two Wishes...

(Proverbs 30:5-9)

- Introduction:
1. From Aladdin's lamp to Barbara Eden in "I dream of Jeannie," we've all probably day dreamed about having several wishes granted.
 2. If you had two wishes, just what would you wish for?
 3. Also, do you think that your wishes would tell us anything about yourself... your character, what's important to you, etc.?
 4. In the book of Proverbs, one man makes two wishes that I think tell us a great deal about this man's life.

I. Wish Number One – Integrity and Honesty

- A. (Proverbs 30:8).
- B. We live in a society that is noticeably lacking in integrity.
- C. Lying has become so common place...so easy.
- D. We lie to our spouses, our children, our parents, at school, at work, to friends, to preachers, to elders, and even to ourselves.
- E. There are consequences to lying (Proverbs 6:19; 19:5; Revelation 21:8).
- F. Lies are so easy to tell, so hard to live, and so damaging to our souls.
- G. Let us strive against the current of society and be men and women of integrity.

II. Wish Number Two – A God Honoring Life

- A. (Proverbs 20:8-9).
- B. Maybe we could go with half of Agur's second wish – "don't give me poverty."
- C. But the second part of the wish must be a joke. Who in their right mind would wish – "don't make me rich?"
- D. There is nothing inherently wrong about poverty or wealth, but Agur was acutely aware of the problems that accompany both poverty and wealth and wished to avoid them.
- E. Above all, he simply wants to faithfully honor and serve God with his life.

- Conclusion:
1. Of course, we all know that there is no genie in a bottle, no lamp that we can rub, but there is an almighty God in heaven.
 2. This God is a God who has promised to give us those good things for which we ask.
 3. So my advice to you today would be to ask, and to ask wisely. To ask for things that will result in a life that is lived to the honor and glory of God.