

**Proverbs 1:22a.** “How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge.”

The simple are dead meat for scorners and fools. Fools and scorners prey upon the naive. Naivety is a lack of experience or judgment. The refusal of a simple person to grow in thinking and awareness blunts his or her ability to defend against shysters. At a certain point in our inner development, naivety becomes a choice. People choose to remain simple when they don't want to take responsibility for the truth. They psychologically defend themselves against the anxiety of choosing right from wrong. To the simple person, neutrality is safe; not deciding is best, even noble. It is a sick compromise of truth. Simple people remain neutral to the Word of God when acknowledging truth is required. No one spiritual person enjoys the thought of an eternal hell, but a simple person won't face the reality of it. Jesus said, “I am the way... No man comes to the Father, except by Me,” but a simple person won't believe it, because he thinks truth is too uncomfortable, even unfair. Simple persons believe they won't be held accountable to choose the truth of God, thinking He will respect their discomfort in taking a stand. The question is, “How long” will you remain that way? The longer a simple person remains that way, the harder his heart becomes. In time they are no better off than the scorners and the fool. They are just nice about it.