Shallow Dishes, Proverbs 26.15

The *[[1]](#footnote-1)h*lazy *man* buries his hand in the *[[2]](#footnote-2)3*bowl;

It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth.

Diligence should be the world view of the believer. Solomon elsewhere sets out an ant as a model worker (Prov. 6:6), and the older I get, the more Solomon’s work ethic encourages me. Unfueled by coffee and sugar, the ant rises early, works all day, and stores up for the coming winter. In all of our ice and snow in Texas, not a single ant passed away. With an 80-degree day yesterday, the invasive Fire Ant has already erected their tell-tale mounds, unscathed by our fiercest storm of the century.

The lazy man, on the other hand, buries (literally hides) his hand in the shallow dish; he cannot even successfully obscure what is right in front of him. I see soup seeping over the hairy hand like a shallow island in a small pond. He has become emotionally exhausted (“weary” includes an emotional component) by the simple task of eating. He cannot possibly cause his hand to return to his mouth. Have you ever tried to assign work to a lazy person? If so, I know you appreciate Solomon’s sense of humor. As a nation we may have developed and rewarded our nation for avoiding work: The lazy man says, “There is a fierce virus in the road….” (See Proverbs 26:13).

There are four Proverbs in a row in chapter 26 that give insights to the diligent about the lazy person. Come join us from 7-8 tonight and we will study Proverbs together. Let me know you are coming and we will have a light supper available (we will not serve it in shallow dishes!).

My love to you all,

*Dr. Marvin J. Effa*

1. *h* Prov. 19:24 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *3* LXX, Syr. *bosom;* Tg., Vg. *armpit* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)