

Proverbs

GOD'S HANDBOOK ON WISDOM

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

Proverbs

GOD'S HANDBOOK ON WISDOM

These notes have been compiled from several sources.

- A Walk with Wisdom: Pastor Jerry Pelfrey, Grace Baptist Mason, Ohio
- Proverbs:..... Dr. Terry Wallace
- A Father's Triangle Skip Heitzig
- Outline of Proverbs John MacArthur
- Notes from Pastor Steven Yater

All printed Scripture text are from the New King James Version (NKJV) unless otherwise noted.

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OUTLINE OF PROVERBS

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- A. Title (1:1)
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TOPICS FROM
PROVERBS
GOD'S WISDOM
FOR NAVIGATING LIFE

INTRODUCTION

Proverbs, Book Of A collection of wisdom and insight attributed to four authors, the primary of author being Solomon. Proverbs is one of the wisdom books of the Old Testament—along with Job, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. It presents “wisdom” (חֵכֶם, *chokmah*) as rooted in God and the key to a successful and righteous life.

The title comes from Proverbs 1:1 and the word “proverb” (מָשָׁל, *mashal*), a term “applied to a great range of utterances, from one-line adages to extended poems”

The Purpose of Proverbs: 1:1-6

- ❖ To provide wisdom and instruction for doing life on this side of Heaven.
- ❖ To realize that God gives knowledge for life application
- ❖ To help us see what we would never see with just physical eyes
- ❖ To help us have the fear of the Lord.

Three Types of Proverbs:

❖ **Contrastive Proverbs:** Key Word: “but”. The contrasting thoughts are provided to penetrate both sides of the issues.

“Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.” (Proverbs 14:34, NKJV)

❖ **Completive Proverbs:** Key Words: “and/so”. The second thought adds completion to the first line.

“He winks with his eyes, He shuffles his feet, He points with his fingers,” (Proverbs 6:13, NKJV)

❖ **Comparative Proverbs:** Key Words: “better, than, like”. The introduce two kinds of circumstance or choices.

“Better is a little with the fear of the Lord, Than great treasure with trouble.” (Proverbs 15:16, NKJV)

MEET WISDOM

Wisdom is the ability to apply knowledge in away that honors God and brings the greatest good to others.

Wisdom is not just the raw facts, it is not the information, it taking the knowledge we have acquired and using it in a way that honors God first and for most. Then using it in a way that brings the greatest good to others.

Now if we neglect bringing honor to God and we are just take the raw information and make a choice based on what we feel brings the greatest good firs to ourselves then possibly to others.

God's Honor and Glory come first then we must ask by whose standard is it good and who are the others I want to apply the good to.

(James 3:13-18, Psalm 119:07-100, Psalm 1, James 1:5, Ephesians 1:19-31, Proverbs 8:11).

"Life is tough, it is tougher if you are stupid." John Wayne

SOLOMON'S PURPOSE STATEMENT

"To know wisdom and instruction, To perceive the words of understanding," (Proverbs 1:2, NKJV)

To the Hebrew mindset wisdom was not just knowledge but the skilled application of knowledge in a way that pleased God. Solomon wanted the reader to know Wisdom to be skilled at living. To know instruction, this would speak to knowing the moral nature of things to understand the law of God. "To perceive the words of understanding" this is to mentally comprehend how the information and the instruction come together into proper action.

"To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, judgment, and equity;" (Proverbs 1:3, NKJV)

- ❖ As we receive wisdom, in time we will be able to understand and implement
- ❖ **Justice** which is to conform to the will and standard of God and act in like manner.
- ❖ **Judgment** to be able to righteously deal with others. We will remove the beam in our eye before we address the speck in theirs.
- ❖ Then we will live with **equity** or to live in a fair and pleasing way honoring God.

"To give prudence to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion—" (Proverbs 1:4, NKJV)

Solomon wants us to understand what he had ask God for (1Kings 3), How to justly help the naive, the simple the ignorant.

- ❖ The root word in the Hebrew for this word simple means, "a open door." In other words to help the people that take everything in and out of there mind and don't know how to think clearly. He wants to help them understand.

"A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, To understand a proverb and an enigma, The words of the wise and their riddles." (Proverbs 1:5-6, NKJV)

- ❖ A wise man a wise woman will hear the Word of God they will increase in learning. They will have a desire to know and understand more. They will seek further wise counsel.
- ❖ The reason behind this book is to sharpen our minds. To look at the enigma of life the riddles around us and gain a godly perspective.

WHY SOME CHOOSE TO REJECT WISDOM

See Proverbs 1:20-33

"Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded, Because you despised all my counsel, And would have none of my rebuke," (Proverbs 1:23-25, NKJV)

1. Because of Rebellion (1:24)
2. Because of Insensitivity (1:24)
3. Because of Indifference (1:25)
4. Because they are Defensive (1:25)

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:7, NKJV)

"Fear of the Lord" brings an understanding that God sees and knows everything and everyone and one day we will all give an account for ourselves to God. This knowledge should encourage us to pursue Wisdom. With in each and every Believer it should cause us to reverence God for who He is and what He has done and it should motivate us to worship and serve God with as passion.

How do you know if you have chosen wisdom for your life?

"A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel," (Proverbs 1:5, NKJV)

1. Do you listen to what is in God's Word?
2. Do you not only listen but do you desire to learn more?
3. Do you listen to those God has placed in your life who can give you godly wise counsel?

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones." (Proverbs 3:5-8, NKJV)

Four Facts Concerning Wisdom : Proverbs 1:20-33

1. Wisdom is available.
2. Wisdom is rejected
3. Rejecting Wisdom bears serious and bitter consequences.
4. Accepting wisdom brings blessing and benefit.

WISDOM: PASS IT ON

"My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands; For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you. Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, And so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones." (Proverbs 3:1-8, NKJV)

- ❖ Solomon is passing the knowledge down to his son. His son will have to choose to apply that knowledge. Just as we must choose to apply that knowledge today.
- ❖ Solomon is not just speaking of his rules for his son. But about the Law of God he himself has set out to follow.
- ❖ The law of God informs us rightly as to God's Holiness and reminds us of our fallen state of separation.

See Deuteronomy 4:1-6; 6:4-9

- ❖ Solomon understood the Word of God must be internalized in order to bring about a change in a persons life. There can not be regeneration with out first an internalization of the truth of God's Word.

❖ We must be diligent to teach generation the Word of God and teach them not to lean on their own understanding

"Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the Lord weighs the hearts." (Proverbs 21:2, NKJV)

- ❖ We can't listen to the cries of the World telling us to let our heart be our guide, but we need to be diligent to walk in wisdom. To seek God's Will knowing His ways are right and His understanding is complete. (He sees the big picture.)



GODLY WISDOM VS. HUMAN WISDOM

"The most experienced psychologists or observers of human nature know infinitely less of the human heart than the simplest Christian who lives beneath the cross of Jesus. The greatest psychological insight, ability, and experience cannot grasp this one thing: what sin is. Worldly wisdom knows what distress and weakness and failures are, but it does not know the godlessness of man. And so it also does not know that man is destroyed only by his sin and can be healed only by forgiveness. Only the Christian knows this. In the presence of a psychiatrist I can only be a sick man; in the presence of a Christian brother I can dare be a sinner. The psychiatrist must first search my heart and yet he never plumbs its ultimate depth. The Christian brother knows when I come to him: here is a sinner like myself, a godless man who wants to confess and yearn for God's forgiveness. The psychiatrist views me as if there were no God. The brother views me as I am before the judging and merciful God in the Cross of Jesus Christ." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

What Does It Look Like To Have Godly Wisdom?

1. Wisdom creates a desire to listen and learn to know more about God. [Proverbs 1:5](#)
2. Wisdom's companions are knowledge, discretion and understanding. [Proverbs 2:10-11](#)
3. Godly Wisdom recognizes and rejects human sources of wisdom. [Proverbs 3:7](#)
4. Wisdom provides direction for doing life on this side of Heaven. [Proverbs 4:10-13](#)
5. Wisdom reveals the deception and danger of sexual sins. [Proverbs 6:24-29](#)
6. Godly Wisdom is the path to fear of the Lord. [Proverbs 9:10](#)
7. Wisdom in a child brings pleasure and joy to the parents. [Proverbs 10:1](#)
8. Godly Wisdom reveals that sin is not harmless or victimless. [Proverbs 10:23](#)
9. Wisdom helps us see the value in taking heed to godly advice. [Proverbs 12:15, 13:10](#)
10. Wisdom protects us and guides us in finding the right type of friend. [Proverbs 13:20](#)
11. Wisdom stresses the need to care for one's soul. [Proverbs 19:8](#)
12. Wisdom leads us to learn from the mistakes of others. [Proverbs 21:11](#)
13. Wisdom detects the presence and danger of sin before it is obvious. [Proverbs 22:3](#)
14. Wisdom will uncover the wrong view of money. [Proverbs 23](#)

"No matter what a person may claim to know, if they do not understand the truth of God they lack the most foundational of all knowledge."- John MacArthur

THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN

In Proverbs we see the warnings of the kind of woman to stay away from the adulterous care free woman. The ones who only look out for their self-interests. But here God gives us a picture of Virtue a picture of graciousness.

These are the words of a mother to her son. Words of wisdom and instruction.

“Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil All the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, And willingly works with her hands. She is like the merchant ships, She brings her food from afar. She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservants. She considers a field and buys it; From her profits she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, And strengthens her arms. She perceives that her merchandise is good, And her lamp does not go out by night. She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her hand holds the spindle. She extends her hand to the poor, Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of snow for her household, For all her household is clothed with scarlet. She makes tapestry for herself; Her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, And supplies sashes for the merchants. Strength and honor are her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness. She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her: “Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all.” Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, And let her own works praise her in the gates.” (Proverbs 31:10–31, NKJV)

These are the words of King Lemuel which his mother had taught him. Lemuel may have been another name for Solomon.

V 1–31: SUMMARY Mother’s concern, the moral king, the sober king, dangers of drink, representing the unrepresented, righteous judgement, poor, the virtuous wife, the value of a good wife, the qualities and character of a good wife, the effect on husband and children of a good wife.

V 10a: WIFE The need to find a wife who is virtuous (or noble) is a question that should be addressed by every Christian man seeking marriage. Spiritual and moral qualities are even more important than the other important and justified considerations. **V 10b: WORTH** The right wife really is a great treasure and far more valuable than jewellery or wealth. **V 11: WELL-BEING** Such is her marital fidelity and trustworthiness around the home and with money that her husband ‘safely trusts her’. He knows that all is well at home. No wonder his children are blessed! **V 12–27: WILLING** Willingness to put herself out for her family is her key quality. This affects her work, her loving concern for her family, her wisdom, her kindness and her watchfulness over her loved ones.

PORTRAIT OF A FOOL

“When we are born, we cry that we are come to this great stage of fools.” — **William Shakespeare**, King Lear

“The greatest lesson in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes.” — **Winston S. Churchill**

“Tricks and treachery are the practice of fools that don't have brains enough to be honest.” — **Benjamin Franklin**

“Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something.” – **Plato**

“It is better to keep your mouth closed and let people think you are a fool than to open it and remove all doubt.”
– **Mark Twain**

“Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.” – **Alexander Pope**

“Wise men say only fools rush in”.
- **Elvis Presley** (Quoting Poet Alexander Pope)

“A man who trusts everyone is a fool and a man who trusts no one is a fool. We are all fools if we live long enough.” — **Robert Jordan**

“I Pity the Fool” - **Mr. T**

People have a lot to say about fools, but what does one look like? Here is the portrait of a fool.

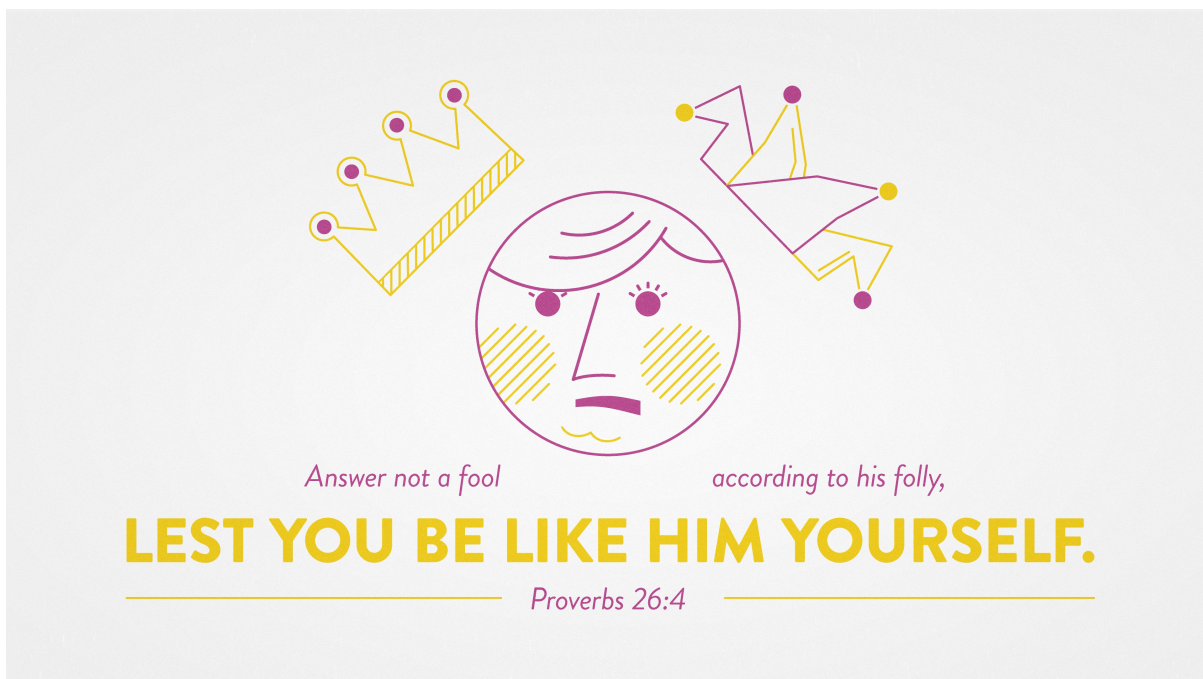
- *Despises Wisdom & Knowledge (1:7)*
- *Hates Knowledge (1:22)*
- *Grieves his mother (10:1)*
- *Enjoys devising mischief (10:23)*
- *Is Right in his own eyes (12:15)*
- *Quick to Anger (12:16)*
- *Hates to depart from evil. (13:9)*
- *Is deceitful (14:8)*
- *Arrogant and careless (14:16)*
- *Rejects his father's instruction (15:5)*
- *Despises his mother (15:20)*
- *Does not respond well to discipline (17:10)*
- *Does not understand wisdom (17:16)*
- *Has a worldly (carnal) focus (value system) (17:24)*
- *Grieves his father (17:25)*
- *Hurts his mother (17:25)*
- *Does not consider discussing any other viewpoint but his own. (18:2)*
- *Provokes others to strife and anger by what he says. (18:6)*

- Has a smart mouth that usually gets him into trouble. (18:7)
- Is quarrelsome, contentious. (20:3)
- Repeats his foolishness. (26:11)
- Trusts in his own heart (28:26)
- Cannot resolve conflict (29:9)
- Gives full vent to his anger. (29:11)

In the Hebrew there are 3 words translated fool in the Book of Proverbs.

1. kesyl - dull, stupid, one who refuses to listen.
2. ewiyl - corrupt, one who is morally twisted and unreasonable.
3. nabal - stubborn like an animal, focused on having their own way.

"As snow in summer and rain in harvest, So honor is not fitting for a fool. Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, So a curse without cause shall not alight. A whip for the horse, A bridle for the donkey, And a rod for the fool's back. Do not answer a fool according to his folly, Lest you also be like him. Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own eyes. He who sends a message by the hand of a fool Cuts off his own feet and drinks violence. Like the legs of the lame that hang limp Is a proverb in the mouth of fools. Like one who binds a stone in a sling Is he who gives honor to a fool. Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard Is a proverb in the mouth of fools. The great God who formed everything Gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his wages."
(Proverbs 26:1-10, NKJV)



“THE POLAROID OF LAZINESS.”

Laziness is a habitual state of idleness and apathy. The lazy person does nothing deserving of rest. They are on a permanent vacation seeking a reason for a longer vacation.

“A lazy man buries his hand in the bowl, And will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.”
(Proverbs 19:24, NKJV)

“He who is slothful in his work Is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.” (Proverbs 18:9, NKJV)

“The average employee steals approximately 4.5 hours per week from their employer, totaling nearly six full work weeks per year and costing businesses hundreds of billions of dollars a year worldwide.” - Forbes

“The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing.”
(Proverbs 20:4, NKJV)

“The lazy man says, “There is a lion outside! I shall be slain in the streets!”” (Proverbs 22:13, NKJV)

Newton's first law: An object at rest remains at rest, or if in motion, remains in motion at a constant velocity unless acted on by a net external force.

- ❖ If you are the object at rest you will remain at rest until you have reason or motivation to move into action.
- ❖ If you are in motion you will remain in motion until **one** your motion is slowed by an outside factor such as an illness or **secondly** by choice you chose inactivity.
- ❖ One is an uncontrolled factor the other the choice to checkout that is laziness, to make excuse to avoid work is laziness.

“The lazy man says, “There is a lion in the road! A fierce lion is in the streets!” As a door turns on its hinges, So does the lazy man on his bed.” (Proverbs 26:13-14, NKJV)

SEVEN THINGS GOD HATES

A challenge to the way we think. Many know the statement, “Hate the sin and love the sinner.” Few know this was said by Mahatma Gandhi. Sadly, many think the statement came from the Bible it is not and it could not be further from the truth.

With God there is a balance between the love of God and the Wrath of God or God’s Hate of sin and sinner.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16, NKJV)

This verse hold a tension with....

"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (John 3:36, NKJV)

God loves the sinner to the point of Sacrificing His Son, but He also hates the sin to the point of wrath. It doesn't say the wrath of God abides on the sin it abides on the sinner. God does not just bag up the sin and punish the sin He punishes the sinner. Apart from repentance, apart from a relationship with Jesus Christ you incur God's Wrath.

"These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren." (Proverbs 6:16-19, NKJV)

1. Pride
2. Lying
3. Murderers
4. Hearts that devise wicked plans.
5. Feet that Run to evil.
6. False Witness
7. Sowers of Discord

Do we hate the sin and love the sinner? Or do we **hate the sin and seek to the sinner come to repentance?** Biblically, I believe that is the answer.

"But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh." (Jude 20-23, NKJV)

As we approach each situation, each sinner in need of a Savior, we first address ourselves our walk with God. Then we address each person individually not blanketing a group or a people but individuals having compassion on them, in love share the truth of God with them that they may experience the fear of the wrath of God on their lives and repent. Literally being pulled out of Hells fire.

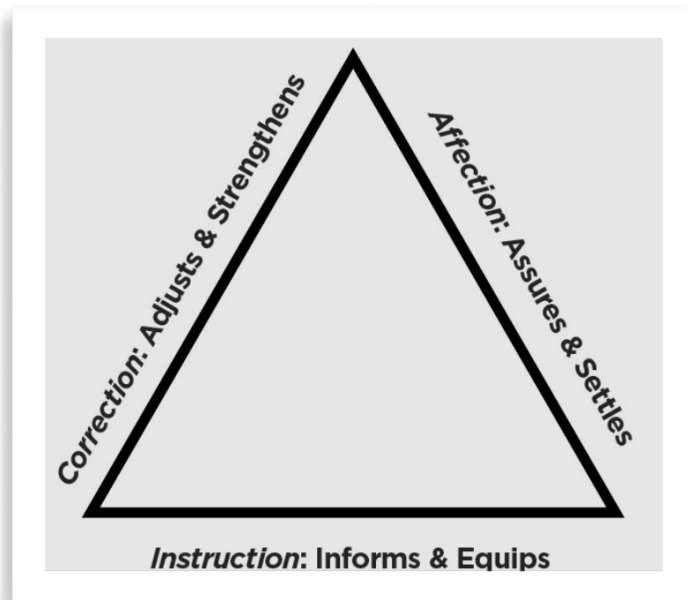
People don't like being told they are sinners and will call you hateful but the most loving thing you will ever do is tell someone the truth so they will not spend eternity in hell separated from God.

THREE ROLES OF A FATHER

"My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor detest His correction; For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights. Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding;" (Proverbs 3:11-13, NKJV)

Rules without a **Relationship** breed **Rebellion**.
Relationship without **Rules** breeds **Resentment**.

- Tim Ruhl



- I. A Father's Instruction
 - Proverbs 3:1-4;4:1;5:1
 - 1 Kings 4:29
 - Deuteronomy 6:6-7
 - Ephesians 6:4
- II. A Father's Correction
 - Proverbs 13:24;19:18
 - Two Types of Discipline
 - Corrective (Loving Correction)
 - Preventative
- III. A Father's Affection
 - Proverbs 22:5-6

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

— Frederick Douglass

