

# The Book of Proverbs

## Introduction

### I. What is a Proverb?

- A.** A short saying or sentence that is generally known by many people. The saying usually contains words of wisdom, truth or morals that are based on common sense or practical experience. It is often a description of a basic rule of conduct that all people generally follow or should follow.
- B.** Characteristics of a proverb
  - 1.** Brief
  - 2.** Pictorial
  - 3.** Easy to remember
  - 4.** Easy to share
- C.** Various styles of a proverb
  - 1.** Alliteration – beginning with the same letter
  - 2.** Parallelism – similarities
  - 3.** Rhyme
  - 4.** Hyperbole – exaggeration
  - 5.** Paradox – truthful statement that seems false (opposite is true)
  - 6.** Personification – types, nature speaks
- D.** Examples of proverbs
  - 1.** Absence makes the heart grow fonder (When you are away from someone you love, you love them even more)
  - 2.** Actions speak louder than words (What a person actually does is more important than what they say they will do)
  - 3.** All good things come to those who wait (Patience brings rewards)
  - 4.** All that glitters is not gold (Appearances can be deceptive)
  - 5.** All is fair in love and war (Things that are done in love or war can often be excused)
  - 6.** All's well that ends well (There is a solution to everything even though there are doubts)
  - 7.** An apple a day keeps the doctor away. (A small preventive treatment wards off serious problems)
  - 8.** An idle mind is the devil's workshop (When you work you avoid temptation)
  - 9.** An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure (It is easier to prevent something from happening than to repair the damage or cure the disease later)

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- 10.** April showers bring May flowers (Something bad or unpleasant today may bring good things in the future)
- 11.** A bird in hand is worth two in a bush (It's better to keep what you have than to risk losing it by searching for something better)
- 12.** A chain is no stronger than its weakest link (The strength of a group depends on each individual member)
- 13.** A friend in need is a friend indeed (Someone who helps you when you are in trouble is a real friend)
- 14.** A good conscience is a soft pillow (You sleep well when you have nothing to feel guilty about)
- 15.** A guilty conscience needs no accuser
- 16.** A leopard cannot change its spots (It is not possible for a bad or unpleasant person to become good or pleasant)
- 17.** A man is known by the company he keeps (A person's character is judged by the type of people with whom they spend their time)
- 18.** A rotten apple spoils the barrel (A dishonest or immoral person can have a bad influence on a group)
- 19.** A stitch in time saves nine (It's better to deal with a problem at an early stage, to prevent it from getting worse)
- 20.** A tree is known by its fruit (A man is judged by his actions)
- 21.** Ask me no questions, I'll tell you no lies (There are subjects I'd rather not discuss)
- 22.** Bad news travels fast (People tend to circulate bad news (accidents, illness etc.) very quickly)
- 23.** Beauty is only skin deep. (A person's character is more important than their appearance)
- 24.** Beauty is in the eye of the beholder (Different people have different tastes)
- 25.** Better late than never (It's better to do something, even if it's late, than not do it at all)
- 26.** Better safe than sorry (It's better to be too careful than to be careless and regret it later)
- 27.** Birds of a feather flock together (People of the same sort are usually found together)
- 28.** Blood is thicker than water (Family relationships are stronger than relationships with other people)
- 29.** Cleanliness is next to godliness (A clean body is just as important as a pure soul)

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- 30.** Distance makes the heart grow fonder (When you are separated from the person you love, your feelings are even stronger)
- 31.** Don't count your chickens before they're hatched (You must not be too confident that something will be successful)
- 32.** Don't judge a book by its cover (Don't judge by appearances)
- 33.** Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.
- 34.** Easier said than done (What is suggested sounds easy but it is more difficult to actually do it)
- 35.** Every cloud has a silver lining (There is a positive or hopeful side to every unpleasant situation)
- 36.** Every man for himself (You must think of your own interests before the interests of others)
- 37.** Every rose has its thorn (Every good thing has an unpleasant side)
- 38.** Familiarity breeds contempt (Knowing somebody very well may lead to a lack of respect for them)
- 39.** First come, first served (The first person in the line will be attended to first)
- 40.** Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me (One should learn from one's mistakes)
- 41.** Give someone an inch and they will take a mile (Give someone a little and they will want more - some people are never satisfied)
- 42.** Give someone enough rope and they will hang themselves (Give someone enough time and freedom and they will get into trouble)
- 43.** Great minds think alike (Said when you express the same opinion as another person at the same time)
- 44.** Great oaks grow from little acorns (Large successful operations can begin in a small way)
- 45.** Haste makes waste (If something is done too quickly, it may be done carelessly and need to be redone)
- 46.** He who plays with fire gets burnt (If you behave in a risky way, you are likely to have problems)
- 47.** Health is better than wealth (It's better to be in good health than to be rich)
- 48.** Home is where the heart is (You call home the place where the people you love are)
- 49.** Honesty is the best policy (It's always better to be honest)

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- 50.** If you chase two rabbits, you will not catch either one (If you try to do two things at the same time, you won't succeed in doing either of them)
- 51.** If two ride a horse, one must ride behind (When two people do something together, one will be the leader and the other will be the subordinate)
- 52.** Ignorance is bliss (What you do not know causes no worry or sadness)
- 53.** It never rains but it pours (Misfortunes usually come in large numbers)
- 54.** It is always darkest before the dawn (The most difficult time is just before a problem is solved)
- 55.** It's no use crying over spilt milk (Don't express regret for something that has happened and cannot be remedied)
- 56.** Laughter is the best medicine.
- 57.** Learn to walk before you run. Don't rush into doing something until you know how to do it.
- 58.** Let bygones be bygones (Let's forgive and forget past quarrels)
- 59.** Let the chips fall where they may (We should not try to control our destiny)
- 60.** Liars need good memories (People who do not tell the truth must be careful to remember what they say)
- 61.** Lightning never strikes in the same place twice (An unusual event is not likely to occur again in exactly the same circumstances)
- 62.** Like father, like son (A son's character can be expected to resemble his father's)
- 63.** Little strokes fell great oaks (If you divide a task into small parts, it becomes easier to do)
- 64.** Look before you leap (Consider possible consequences before taking action)
- 65.** Loose lips sink ships (Disclosing important information (to the enemy or a competitor) could result in large losses)
- 66.** Losers weepers, finders keepers (If you lose something you weep, if you find something you keep it)
- 67.** Love is blind (A person in love does not see the faults of the person he/she loves)
- 68.** Many hands make light work (Sharing work makes work easier)

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69. Money doesn't grow on trees (You shouldn't waste money because it is not plentiful)
70. Necessity is the mother of invention (The need for something forces people to find a way of obtaining it)
71. Never put off till tomorrow what can be done today (Don't postpone something you can do now)
72. Never say die (Never give up)
73. Nobody is perfect.
74. No man can serve two masters (It's impossible to follow instructions from two different sources)
75. No news is good news (If the news was bad, we would hear of it. Since we have heard nothing, we can assume that all is well)
76. No smoke without fire (There could be some truth in the rumor)
77. Nothing ventured, nothing gained (You cannot expect to achieve anything if you don't take risks)
78. Once bitten, twice shy (After an unpleasant experience, people are careful to avoid something similar)
79. One good turn deserves another (You should be helpful to someone who helps you)
80. One man's trash is another man's treasure (What is useless to one person could be valuable to another)
81. Opportunity seldom knocks twice (Don't miss opportunities that come along)
82. Out of sight, out of mind (We tend to forget people or things that we do not see)
83. Patience is a virtue (It is good to be patient)
84. People who live in glass houses should not throw stones (One should not criticize others for faults similar to one's own)
85. Practice makes perfect (Doing something repeatedly is the only way to become good at it)
86. Practice what you preach (Do yourself what you advise others to do)
87. Prevention is better than cure (It is easier to prevent something from happening than to repair the damage or cure the disease later)
88. Revenge is sweet (There is satisfaction in returning an injury)
89. Rome was not built in a day (It takes a long time to do a job properly. You should not expect to do it quickly)

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90. Saying is one thing, doing is another (People don't always do what they announce)
91. Snug as a bug in a rug (Feeling very comfortable)
92. Sticks and stones will break my bones but names will never hurt me (Physical attacks may harm me, but cruel words will not)
93. Stolen fruit is the sweetest (What is forbidden is the most tempting)
94. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree (Children resemble their parents)
95. The best things in life are free (You don't have to pay for what is important : happiness, friendship, good health)
96. The darkest hour is just before dawn (There is hope even in the worst of times\_
97. The early bird catches the worm (If you want to do something successfully, you should do it as soon as you can)
98. The end justifies the means (Wrong or unfair methods may be used if the result of the action is good)
99. The more you have, the more you want (People have a constant desire to possess more)
100. The pen is mightier than the sword (Words and communication have greater effect than war and fighting)
101. The proof of the pudding is in the eating (The real value of something can be judged only after it has been tried or tested)
102. The way to a man's heart is through his stomach (Feed a man well and he will love you)
103. There is safety in numbers (Being in a crowd makes you feel more confident)
104. Time is money (Time is valuable and should not be wasted)
105. To err is human, to forgive divine (It is human nature to make mistakes, therefore one should forgive)
106. Too many cooks spoil the broth (If too many people are involved in something, it will not be done properly)
107. Truth is stranger than fiction (Events in real life are sometimes stranger than in fiction)
108. Two wrongs don't make a right (It is wrong to harm someone because they have harmed you)
109. Variety is the spice of life (Doing a lot of different things makes life more interesting)

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- 110.** Virtue is its own reward (You should not expect praise for acting in a correct or moral way)
- 111.** Walls have ears (Be careful. People could be listening)
- 112.** Waste not, want not (If you never waste anything, you will have it when you need it)
- 113.** What the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve over (If a person doesn't know about something, it cannot hurt them)
- 114.** When the cat's away, the mice play (People misbehave when their boss, or the person in authority, is absent)
- 115.** When in Rome, do as the Romans do (You should adopt the customs of the people or country you are visiting, and behave in the same way)
- 116.** Where there's a will, there's a way (A person with determination will find a way of doing something)
- 117.** Wonders will never cease (Expresses surprise at an unexpected pleasure or event)
- 118.** You are what you eat (What you eat has an effect on your well-being)
- 119.** You are never too old to learn
- 120.** You can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink (You can offer someone an opportunity to do something but you can't force them)
- 121.** You can't teach an old dog new tricks (A person who is used to doing things a certain way cannot change)
- 122.** You never know what you can do until you try (Try first before deciding not to do something)
- 123.** You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours (You help me and I'll help you)

## II. Who wrote the book of Proverbs?

### A. Solomon

**Proverbs 1:1** The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

**Proverbs 10:1** The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son *is* the heaviness of his mother.

**Proverbs 25:1** These *are* also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

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**1.** Solomon asked God for wisdom

**1 Kings 3:9-10** Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

**2.** Solomon was not perfect

**1 Kings 11:1-4** But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

**B.** Agur

**Proverbs 30:1** The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, *even* the prophecy: the man spake unto Ithiel, even unto Ithiel and Ucal,

**C.** Lemuel

**Proverbs 31:1** The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him.

### III. What style is the book of Proverbs written in?

**A.** Contrasts – point out differences

**Proverbs 13:1** A wise son *heareth* his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.

**B.** Completions – that which is necessary

**Proverbs 16:3** Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

**C.** Comparative – point out likenesses

**Proverbs 15:16** Better *is* little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

**D.** Counsel on how to solve problems

**1.** Don't avoid problems

**2.** Don't let problems deflect you from your goal

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3. Don't let problems cause you to quit
  4. Deal with problems
- E. Condemnation for doing wrong

## IV. What is the major theme of the book of Proverbs?

- A. Word usage
1. The word wise is found 66 times in the book
  2. The word wisdom is found 54 times in the book
- B. Wisdom is the major theme
1. How to acquire wisdom  
**Proverbs 4:7** Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *therefore* get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.
  2. How to apply wisdom  
**Proverbs 2:2** So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, *and* apply thine heart to understanding;
- C. Emphasis on the mind
- Matthew 22:37** Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
- Romans 12:2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
1. It is not enough just to have knowledge
  2. Wisdom is the ability to use that knowledge
- D. What is wisdom?
1. Good knowledge, judgment and discernment
    - a) Able to handle a difficult situation
    - b) Able to handle it at the right time
    - c) Able to handle it the right way
    - d) Able to choose what is best
  2. Related words
    - a) Prudence – ability to discern with caution
    - b) Discretion – choose what is best
  3. Be skillful and successful in one's relationships and responsibilities
  4. Biblical wisdom
    - a) Wisdom begins with a right relationship with God
    - b) Wisdom keeps itself in harmony with God's principles

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## V. What is the purpose of the book of Proverbs?

### A. Understand The Fear of the Lord

**Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**Proverbs 8:13** The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

**Proverbs 9:10** The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.

**Proverbs 14:27** The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

**Proverbs 15:33** The fear of the LORD *is* the instruction of wisdom; and before honour *is* humility.

### B. Acquire and Apply Wisdom

**Proverbs 1:1-6** The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

1. Instruction

2. Understanding

3. Subtilty (Skill, instruction and experience)

4. Knowledge

5. Discretion

6. Learning

7. Counsel

## VI. What practical topics are covered?

A. Wealth/Business

B. Friendships

C. Home

D. Character

E. Temptation

F. Feelings

G. Tongue

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## VII. Keys to Remember

- A.** The Proverbs are generalized statements, not promises
- B.** In seeking to apply a Proverb, be sure to validate the application through the context of the Bible
- C.** Proverbs are principles for living! They are not just a collection of wise sayings, but divine rules from heaven to govern the believer's conduct

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## Is Anybody Listening?

“The reason why we have two ears and only one mouth is so that we can listen twice as much as we talk”

“There is so much noise today that we can’t hear the things that we really need to hear”

- Radio
- Television
- Music players
- Machines
- Cell phones

### I. Wisdom’s Call to Salvation

*Three voices that we need to identify*

#### A. The voice of instruction

**Proverbs 1:8-10** My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck. My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

**1.** Father and mother have been teaching their children

**Deuteronomy 6:6-9** And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

**2.** Father and mother have a desire that the children obey

**3.** Father and mother know that God’s truth will be an ornament of grace that shows to others

**Proverbs 1:15-19** My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path: For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood. Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives. So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

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4. Father and mother want their children to avoid temptation and those who will tempt them

a) Don't walk with the wrong crowd

**Psalm 1:1** Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

**2 Corinthians 6:14-17** Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

b) Don't play with temptation – it's a trap

c) When you disobey God by harming others, you are harming yourself

B. The voice of temptation

**Proverbs 1:11-14** If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause: Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit: We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil: Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

1. Sin sounds exciting

2. Sin leads to disaster

3. Sin promises the riches of this world

C. The voice of salvation

**Proverbs 1:20-33** Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel,

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and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

1. Wisdom speaks loud so that all can hear
  - a) Wisdom speaks to the simple ones
    - (1) Naïve – believe anything but examine nothing
    - (2) Gullible and easily led astray
  - b) Wisdom speaks to the scorners
    - (1) Think they know everything
    - (2) Laugh at things that are really important
  - c) Wisdom speaks to the fools
    - (1) Ignorant of truth because they dull and stubborn
    - (2) Lack of spiritual desire to seek God’s wisdom
    - (3) They hate knowledge and no interest in spiritual things
2. Wisdom has a message to these sinners
  - a) Indictment
    - (1) How long do you plan to remain in this spiritual condition?
    - (2) How long will you refuse to listen to these warnings?
  - b) Invitation
    - (1) Turn from your evil ways
    - (2) Repent and allow God’s wisdom to change your heart
3. Wisdom hears this response from these sinners
  - a) Refusal to obey
  - b) Laugh at the warnings
  - c) Mock her words
4. Wisdom sees the end result
  - a) Sinners will call upon the Lord, but it will be too late
  - b) Sinners will reap what they have sown

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## II. Wisdom's Call to True Wealth

**Proverbs 8:1-5** Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice? She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors. Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man. O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart. (Note: he doesn't address the scorers at this point)

### A. You can trust my words

**Proverbs 8:6-9** Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.

1. Excellent things
2. Right things
3. True things
4. Righteous things
5. Things that can be understood

### B. You can receive true wealth

**Proverbs 8:10-21** Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold. For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions. The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate. Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength. By me kings reign, and princes decree justice. By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth. I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me. Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver. I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment: That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.

1. Physical wealth is not a sign of God's blessings
2. What wisdom has to offer can't be purchased
  - a) Prudence – use caution before proceeding
  - b) Knowledge – clear understanding before proceeding

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- c) Discretion – separate between right and wrong before proceeding
  - d) Fear of the Lord – to hate evil
  - e) Humility – opposite of pride and arrogance
  - f) Godly speech
  - g) Wise counsel
  - h) Understanding
  - i) Strength
3. How to receive wisdom's wealth
- a) Hear the Word of God
  - b) Receive instruction
  - c) Love truth and wisdom
  - d) Seek God and His wisdom daily
- C. You can see my works
- Proverbs 8:22-31** The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him; Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.
- 1. We see evidence of God's wisdom in creation
  - 2. The same power that the Lord has to create is the same power He can demonstrate in our lives
- D. You must make a decision
- Proverbs 8:32-36** Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoso findeth me

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findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD. But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

1. How will you respond?
2. True life and wealth comes from heeding God's wisdom

### III. Wisdom's Call to Life

**Proverbs 9:1-18** Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars: She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her table. She hath sent forth her maidens: she crieth upon the highest places of the city, Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled. Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding. He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot. Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased. If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself: but if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it. A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing. For she sitteth at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city, To call passengers who go right on their ways: Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: and as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell.

- A. Wisdom has prepared a meal – time to sit down and talk together
- B. Invitation given to the simple to attend (Note: no longer the fools or the scorners)
- C. Warnings given to others who wish to attend
  1. Forsake the foolish
  2. Reprove not a scorner
  3. Beware of the foolish woman who calls out loudly to the simple to join her as her guest

# The Book of Proverbs

## The Path of Wisdom and Life Proverbs 2-4

- The only way to end up at the right destination is to choose the right road
- There are only two ways – one leads to destruction and one leads you to Christ  
**Matthew 7:13** Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.
- Proverbs speaks about the Blessings of walking on Wisdom's path  
**Proverbs 14:12** There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

### I. Wisdom Protects Your Path (Chapter 2) (Key 2:8)

#### A. Walking with God (2:1-9)

##### 1. Imperatives – daily disciplines

- a) Receive God's words
- b) Hide them in our hearts
- c) Incline your ear
- d) Apply to your heart
- e) Cry after knowledge
- f) Lift up the voice of understanding
- g) Seek for wisdom
- h) Search for wisdom

##### 2. Promises

- a) Understand the fear of the Lord
- b) Find the knowledge of God
- c) Lays up sound wisdom
- d) Shield (buckler) to the upright
- e) Keeps the path
- f) Preserves the way
- g) Understand righteousness, judgment and equity

#### B. Walking with the wicked (2:10-19)

##### 1. The evil man

- a) Speaks forward things (willfully contrary to that which is good)

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- b) Leaves the paths of uprightness
- c) Walks in the ways of darkness
- d) Rejoices in evil
- e) Delights in the forwardness of the wicked (opposition to the truth)
- f) Crooked ways
- g) Turn aside from the truth path
- 2. The strange woman
  - a) Flatters with her words
    - (1) Manipulation
    - (2) People telling us things about ourselves that we enjoy hearing and wish were true
  - b) Rebelled against her parents
  - c) Rebelled against her husband
  - d) Her path leads to death
- C. Walking with the righteous (2:20-22)
  - 1. Dwell in the land
  - 2. Remain in the land

## II. Wisdom Directs Your Path (Chapter 3) (Key 3:5-6)

- A. Conditions to Meet (3:1-12)
  - 1. Learn God's truth (1-4)
  - 2. Obey God's will (5-8)
  - 3. Share God's blessings (9-10)
  - 4. Submit to his chastening (11-12)
- B. Blessings to Enjoy (3:13-35)
  - 1. True wealth comes from wisdom (13-18)
  - 2. Harmony with God's Creation (19-20)
  - 3. The Lord's care and protection (21-26)
    - a) Life
    - b) Grace
    - c) Safety
    - d) No fear
    - e) Pleasant sleep
    - f) Confidence
  - 4. Positive relationships with others (27-35)

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## III. Wisdom Perfects Your Path (Chapter 4) (Key 4:18)

- A. Knowing God's Word (1-9)
  - 1. Hear instruction
  - 2. Get wisdom
  - 3. Honor and cherish wisdom
- B. Trusting God's Providence (10-19)
  - 1. Long years
  - 2. Good paths
  - 3. Not stumble
  - 4. Clear path (lighted)
- C. Obeying God's Will (20-27)
  - 1. What comes into my years? (20)
  - 2. What is in my heart? (23)
  - 3. What is on our lips? (24)
  - 4. What is before our eyes? (25)
  - 5. Where is our path headed? (26-27)

# The Book of Proverbs

## The Path of Folly and Death Proverbs 5-7

- Thou shalt not commit adultery (Exodus 20:14)
- Sexual intimacy outside the bounds of marriage is wrong, even if it is between consenting adults
- God created us as sexual beings and has set guidelines for sexuality that we must follow
- Sexual sin is prevalent in movie themes, television programming etc.

### I. Sexual sin is eventually disappointing (Chapter 5)

*Those who do not follow God's plan for intimacy eventually experience disappointment; Those who respect God's plan for intimacy experience the enjoyment and pleasure that God intended*

#### A. Their experience goes from sweetness to bitterness (vs. 1-6)

**Proverbs 5:1-6** My son, attend unto my wisdom, *and* bow thine ear to my understanding: That thou mayest regard discretion, and *that* thy lips may keep knowledge. For the lips of a strange woman drop *as* an **honeycomb**, and her mouth *is* smoother than oil: But her end is **bitter** as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell. Lest thou shouldst ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, *that* thou canst not know *them*.

**1.** A warning is given about the strange woman

**2.** Decide ahead of time to avoid this woman

#### B. Their experience goes from gain to loss (vs. 7-14)

**Proverbs 5:7-14** Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house: Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger; And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed, And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me! I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly.

**1.** Temptation always has hopeful promises

**2.** This man will be better – this woman will understand me

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3. There is a price to pay for adultery (today divorce costs thousands of dollars followed by alimony, child support, custody battles etc.)
  4. Why didn't I listen to instruction – what have I gotten myself in to?
- C. Their experience goes from purity to pollution (vs. 15-20)
- Proverbs 5:15-20** Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee. Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love. And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?
1. Married life is like drinking pure refreshing water
  2. Sexual sin is like drinking polluted water
  3. Married life lets you taste of deep water
  4. Sexual sin is tasting of shallow waters not within the banks of the river
  5. Faithfulness in marriage brings deep joy and satisfaction
- D. Their experience goes from freedom to bondage (vs. 21-23)
- Proverbs 5:21-23** For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings. His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins. He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.
1. God gives freedom to choose
  2. Wrong choices bring bondage
  3. The habits of sin become strong cords of bondage
  4. Only the power of Christ can break through those chains of bondage and addiction

### II. Sexual sin is gradually destructive (Chapter 6:20-35)

*Chapter 6 deals with three enemies of the Christian: foolish financial commitments, (vs. 1-5) laziness (vs. 6-11) and lust (vs. 20-35)*

#### A. Lust causes us to lose the Word of God (vs. 20-24)

**Proverbs 6:20-24** My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it

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shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.

1. God's Word will lead us
2. God's Word will keep us
3. God's Word will accompany us
4. God's Word is our light
5. God's Word is our correction

### B. Lust causes us to lose wealth (vs. 25-26)

**Proverbs 6:25-26** Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.

1. Adultery will strip you of your wealth
2. The adulteress will move on to the next one when the wealth is gone

### C. Lust causes us to lose enjoyment (vs. 27-31)

**Proverbs 6:27-31** Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent. Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house.

1. Fire is a beautiful thing in the fireplace
2. Fire can be very destructive
3. Warmth can turn into burning
4. If you are hungry, you need to eat food – but stealing the food is wrong; Adultery is stealing

### D. Lust causes us to lose good sense (vs. 32)

**Proverbs 6:32** *But* whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he *that* doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

1. Physical, sexual desires cause us to throw out common sense
2. We will reap what we sow

### E. Lust causes us to lose peace (vs. 33-35)

**Proverbs 6:33-35** A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. He will not regard

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any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.

1. Sexual sin will take something that cannot be replaced
2. There is no amount of money that can be paid to appease the spouse of the one who has sinned (How many millions of dollars are awarded in divorce cases for the spouse left to themselves)

## III. Sexual sin is ultimately deadly (Chapter 7)

### A. Word of God can keep you from sin (vs. 1-5)

**Proverbs 7:1-5** My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee. Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye. Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart. Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister; and call understanding thy kinswoman: That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words.

### B. Strange woman will cause you to sin

**Proverbs 7:6-27** For at the window of my house I looked through my casement, And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding, Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house, In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night: And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart. (She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house: Now is she without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.) So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him, I have peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows. Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee. I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt. I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves. For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey: He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed. With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that

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it is for his life. Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.

1. A simple young man who thinks he can play with sin and get away with it
2. This man is out walking the streets at night – looking and walking by the temptation
3. A married woman is waiting for him, she has dressed like a prostitute – advertising herself as sexually available
4. She proclaims that her husband is out of town on business and that she has a feast prepared at home
5. She kisses him and flatters him with her words
6. She appeals to the man's imagination – describing her bedroom, her perfume
7. She reminds him that her husband is gone – we will be all alone
8. The young man follow her like an animal to the slaughter
9. This man who thinks he is strong and can handle the temptation – is destroyed by this woman

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People

### I. The Wise

#### A. Wise people listen to wise instruction, especially the Word of God

##### 1. Pays attention to instruction

**Proverbs 1:5** A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

**Proverbs 22:17-21** Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge. For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips. That thy trust may be in the LORD, I have made known to thee this day, even to thee. Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge, That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?

##### 2. Considers the source of instruction

**Proverbs 19:27** Cease, my son, to hear the instruction *that causeth* to err from the words of knowledge.

##### 3. Accepts God's Word as Instruction

**Proverbs 2:1-9** My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, *and* apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, *and* liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as *for* hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth *cometh* knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; *yea*, every good path.

##### 4. Accepts rebuke and correction

**Proverbs 9:8-9** Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

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**Proverbs 17:10** A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.

5. Seeks godly counsel

**Proverbs 13:10** Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised *is* wisdom.

**Proverbs 12:15** The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel *is* wise.

**Proverbs 19:20** Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

B. Wise people fear the Lord

1. Respecting Him so that we will obey His will and seek to honor His name

**Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**Proverbs 3:7** Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

2. Gives life

**Proverbs 14:27** The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

**Proverbs 19:23** The fear of the LORD *tendeth* to life: and *he that hath it* shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.

**Proverbs 10:27** The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

3. Gives confidence

**Proverbs 14:26** In the fear of the LORD *is* strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.

4. Gives hope

5. **Proverbs 23:17-18** Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long. For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.

6. Keeps our priorities right

**Proverbs 15:16** Better *is* little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

7. Keep us from evil

**Proverbs 8:13** The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

**Proverbs 16:6** By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD *men* depart from evil.

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- C. Wise people associate with wise people  
**Proverbs 13:20** He that walketh with wise *men* shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.  
**Proverbs 2:20** That thou mayest walk in the way of good *men*, and keep the paths of the righteous.
- D. Wise people preserve what they have gained and they use it  
**Proverbs 10:14** Wise *men* lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish *is* near destruction.  
**Proverbs 12:27** The slothful *man* roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man *is* precious.
  - 1. Failing to use what God has given you
  - 2. Wasting what you have
- E. Wise people flee from sin  
**Proverbs 14:16** A wise *man* feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident.  
**Proverbs 8:13** The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.
- F. Wise people discipline their speech  
**Proverbs 16:23** The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.  
**Proverbs 10:19** In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips *is* wise.
- G. Wise people are diligent in their work  
**Proverbs 10:4-5** He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich. He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.
- H. Wise people seek to influence others to trust the Lord  
**Proverbs 11:30** The fruit of the righteous *is* a tree of life; and he that winneth souls *is* wise.

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People

### II. The Wicked

**Proverbs 6:12-19** A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth. He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers; Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord. Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy. These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

#### A. The Wicked Described

1. Naughty – worthless, without profit
2. Froward mouth – crooked, twisted (cannot be trusted)
3. Body language – winks, shuffles his feet, motions with his fingers
4. Wicked heart – mischief
5. Soweth discord – troublemaker

#### B. The Sin of the Wicked that God hates

1. A Disdainful Look: Characterized by Pride – basic motivation for all other sins
2. A Deceitful Tongue: Characterized by a Lying Tongue
3. A Deadly Hand: Characterized by Murder – hands that shed innocent blood
4. A Depraved Heart: Characterized by a Heart with wicked imaginations
5. A Delinquent Foot: Characterized by Feet that run to mischief
6. A Dishonest Witness: Characterized by a False witness
7. A Deliberate Meddler: Characterized by Sowing discord

### III. The Simple

**Proverbs 14:15** The simple believeth every word: but the prudent *man* looketh well to his going.

#### A. The naïve person who believes everything

#### B. They don't have personal convictions for themselves

1. Today's mindset is to be open minded

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2. Today's mindset is to be tolerant
  3. Today's mindset is that there are no absolutes
  4. Today's mindset is whatever feels good – do it
- C. The simple person does not want to think for themselves
- D. The simple person needs discretion, prudence (subtlety)  
**Proverbs 1:4** To give subtlety to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.
- E. The simple love their simplicity  
**Proverbs 1:22** How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?
- F. The simple fell into sexual sin  
**Proverbs 7:7** And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding,  
**Proverbs 7:22** He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks;
- G. The simple will learn from watching the correction of someone else  
**Proverbs 19:25** Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware: and reprove one that hath understanding, *and* he will understand knowledge.  
**Proverbs 21:11** When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise: and when the wise is instructed, he receiveth knowledge.
- H. The simple doesn't foresee trouble  
**Proverbs 22:3** A prudent *man* foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.
- I. **Proverbs 27:12** A prudent *man* foreseeth the evil, *and* hideth himself; *but* the simple pass on, *and* are punished.

### IV. The Scorer

**Psalms 1:1** Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful

- A. The scorner is one who talks arrogantly, one who mocks others, one who despises others (very mean)
- B. The scorner thinks they know everything and anybody who tries to teach them is only wasting their time  
**Proverbs 21:24** Proud *and* haughty scorner *is* his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.

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- C.** The scorner cannot seek wisdom because they lack a humble spirit  
**Proverbs 14:6** A scorner seeketh wisdom, and *findeth it* not: but knowledge *is* easy unto him that understandeth.
- D.** The scorner does not respond well to advice and reproof  
**Proverbs 9:7-8** He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot. Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.  
**Proverbs 13:1** A wise son *heareth* his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.  
**Proverbs 15:12** A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.
- E.** The scorner is one who spreads infection  
**Proverbs 22:10** Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease.  
**Proverbs 29:8** Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise *men* turn away wrath.
- F.** God deals with the scorner  
**Proverbs 3:34** Surely he scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly.  
**James 4:6** But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.  
**1 Peter 5:5** Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- 1.** God confounded the languages at the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11)
  - 2.** God took off the chariot wheels of the Egyptians at the Red Sea (Exodus 14)
  - 3.** God caused Nebuchadnezzar to act like an animal for 12 months (Daniel 4)
  - 4.** Herod Agrippa was eaten by worms (Acts 12:20-25)

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People

### V. The Fool and His Folly

#### A. The Fool is not willing to receive instruction

1. They despise God's Word

**Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. (disciplined mind)

2. They despise their parent's instruction

**Proverbs 15:5** A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

3. They make fun of sin

**Proverbs 14:9** Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous *there is favour.*

4. They think that their way is the only right way

**Proverbs 12:15** The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel *is* wise.

#### B. The Fool cannot control his tongue

**Proverbs 15:2** The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

1. Their speech is filled with pride

**Proverbs 14:3** In the mouth of the foolish *is* a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.

2. They speak before they know all of the facts

**Proverbs 18:13** He that answereth a matter before he heareth *it*, *it is* folly and shame unto him.

**Proverbs 29:20** Seest thou a man *that is* hasty in his words? *there is* more hope of a fool than of him.

3. They talk about many things but accomplish little

*Prating – babbling, idle talk*

**Proverbs 10:8-10** The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall. He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known. He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall.

**Proverbs 14:7** Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not *in him* the lips of knowledge.

4. Their speech is characterized by lying and slander

**Proverbs 10:18** He that hideth hatred *with* lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, *is* a fool.

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5. Their lips and speech lead to contention

**Proverbs 18:6-7** A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes. A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.

C. The Fool cannot control his temper

1. Their anger is expressed openly

**Proverbs 12:16** A fool's wrath is presently known: but a prudent *man* covereth shame.

**Proverbs 14:29** *He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.*

**Proverbs 17:28** Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: *and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.*

**Proverbs 29:11** A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise *man* keepeth it in till afterwards.

2. Their anger is a heavy burden

**Proverbs 27:3-4** A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath is heavier than them both. Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?

**Proverbs 26:4** Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.

D. The Fool is proud

1. They have put their trust in themselves

**Proverbs 28:26** He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

**Proverbs 26:12** Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? *there is more hope of a fool than of him.*

2. They have lifted themselves up

**Proverbs 30:32** If thou hast done foolishly in lifting up thyself, or if thou hast thought evil, *lay* thine hand upon thy mouth.

E. The Fool brings sorrow to his parents

1. Parents are brought to sorrow because of a foolish child

**Proverbs 10:1** A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son *is* the heaviness of his mother.

**Proverbs 15:20** A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother.

**Proverbs 17:25** A foolish son *is* a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bare him.

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2. Parents have a responsibility to correct their children  
**Proverbs 22:15** Foolishness *is* bound in the heart of a child; *but* the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

### F. The Fool has difficulties with money

1. The fool knows the price of everything, but the value of nothing  
**Proverbs 21:20** *There is* treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.

2. Luxury is not fitting for a fool

**Proverbs 19:10** Delight is not seemly for a fool; much less for a servant to have rule over princes.

### G. The Fool cannot be trusted with Responsibility

1. The weight of honor and responsibility is unsuitable for the fool  
**Proverbs 26:1** As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.

2. The fool has to be monitored closely

**Proverbs 26:3** A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.

3. The fool cannot accomplish simple tasks

**Proverbs 26:6** He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, and drinketh damage.

4. The fool doesn't learn from his mistakes – he returns to them

**Proverbs 26:11** As a dog returneth to his vomit, *so* a fool returneth to his folly.

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People (Wise, Wicked, Simple, Scornful, Fool)

*How do you get wealth?*

- Stealing it  
**Exodus 20:15** Thou shalt not steal.
- Earning it  
**Exodus 20:9** Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- Receiving it as a gift/inheritance  
**Acts 20:35** I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

### VI. Thief

#### A. Avoid get-rich quick schemes

**Proverbs 13:11** Wealth *gotten* by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.

**Proverbs 28:22** He that hasteth to be rich *hath* an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.

**Proverbs 21:5-7** The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want. The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death. The robbery of the wicked shall destroy them; because they refuse to do judgment.

**1.** Danger in acquiring wealth hastily (quick rich schemes)

**2.** Danger in acquiring wealth by lying (deception)

**3.** Danger in acquiring wealth by robbery

*This is a "sure thing" that turned out to be a "sure loser"*

*There are no "free lunches"*

#### B. Avoid dishonest business dealings

**Proverbs 11:1** A false balance *is* abomination to the LORD: but a just weight *is* his delight.

**Proverbs 16:11** A just weight and balance *are* the LORD'S: all the weights of the bag *are* his work.

**Proverbs 20:10** Divers weights, *and* divers measures, both of them *are* alike abomination to the LORD.

**Proverbs 20:23** Divers weights *are* an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance *is* not good.

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**Deuteronomy 25:13-16** Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small. Thou shalt not have in thine house divers measures, a great and a small. But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have: that thy days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. For all that do such things, and all that do unrighteously, are an abomination unto the LORD thy God.

- C. Avoid being selfish with your resources – consider others

**Proverbs 11:25-26** The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself. He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

**John 3:27** John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

*Business is win-win*

*You shouldn't be making a "killing" by hurting others*

### VII. Sluggard/Lazy

*Avoid being lazy – being able to work, but choosing to live off of everyone else's labor*

- A. The lazy person thinks that work is a curse from God

**Genesis 2:15** And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

**1 Timothy 5:18** For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

*God's plan is for everyone to work*

- B. The lazy person loves to sleep

**Proverbs 6:9-11** How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

*The idea of one that travelleth is a "bum"; The idea of an armed man is one who will turn to robbery to survive*

**Proverbs 26:14** As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed.

*Lots of movement, but no progress*

- C. The lazy person when put to work is more of a nuisance than a help

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**Proverbs 10:26** As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so *is* the sluggard to them that send him.

*The lazy person just irritates you and hinders the job from getting done*

**Proverbs 21:25** The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.

*His dreams will not come to pass because of his refusal to work*

**D.** The lazy person is smart and a desire to be wealthy

**Proverbs 26:16** The sluggard *is* wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

*Lazy people are very smart people*

**Proverbs 13:4** The soul of the sluggard desireth, and *hath* nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

*Lazy people dream and desire yet have nothing*

**Proverbs 21:25-26** The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour. He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.

**E.** The lazy person makes good excuses

**Proverbs 20:4** The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; *therefore* shall he beg in harvest, and *have* nothing.

**Proverbs 22:13** The slothful *man* saith, *There is* a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.

**Proverbs 26:13** The slothful *man* saith, *There is* a lion in the way; a lion *is* in the streets.

**Proverbs 15:19** The way of the slothful *man is* as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous *is* made plain.

**F.** The lazy person will reap a life of poverty and hunger

**Proverbs 19:15** Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

**Proverbs 10:4** He becometh poor that dealeth *with* a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

**Proverbs 13:4** The soul of the sluggard desireth, and *hath* nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

**2 Thessalonians 3:10** For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

**Proverbs 19:24** A slothful *man* hideth his hand in *his* bosom, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.

**Proverbs 26:15** The slothful hideth his hand in *his* bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.

## The Book of Proverbs

*The lazy man hides his hand from doing work and will have nothing to put in his mouth to eat*

**G.** The lazy person is enslaved to others

**Proverbs 12:24** The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

**H.** The lazy person wastes what God has provided – resources and opportunities

**Proverbs 18:9** He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

**Proverbs 10:5** He that gathereth in summer *is* a wise son: *but* he that sleepeth in harvest *is* a son that causeth shame.

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People (Wise, Wicked, Simple, Scornful, Fool, Thief, Sluggard)

### VIII. Poor and Needy

#### A. What are the causes of poverty and need?

1. Some are poor because they choose not to work  
**Proverbs 10:4** He becometh poor that dealeth *with* a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.
2. Some are poor because they love sleep  
**Proverbs 20:13** Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, *and* thou shalt be satisfied with bread.
3. Some are poor because they love pleasure  
**Proverbs 21:17** He that loveth pleasure *shall be* a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.  
**Proverbs 23:21** For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe *a man* with rags.
4. Some are poor because they have not learned a good work ethic  
**Proverbs 13:18** Poverty and shame *shall be to* him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.
5. Some are poor because they like to talk and not act  
**Proverbs 14:23** In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips *tendeth* only to penury. (extreme want and poverty)
6. Some are poor because of unwise financial decisions  
**Proverbs 21:5** The thoughts of the diligent *tend* only to plenteousness; but of every one *that is* hasty only to want. (hasty decisions)  
**Proverbs 6:1-2** My son, if thou be surety for thy friend, if thou hast stricken thy hand with a stranger, Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth. (Cosigning for others and assuming their debts)  
**Proverbs 11:15** He that is surety for a stranger shall smart (suffer pain and loss) *for it*: and he that hateth suretiship is sure.  
**Proverbs 22:26-27** Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

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7. Some are poor because of people and events over which they have no control

**Proverbs 14:31** He that oppreseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.

**Proverbs 22:2** The rich and poor meet together: the LORD *is* the maker of them all.

### B. How do we help the poor?

1. Do not look down upon them

**Proverbs 14:21** He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy *is* he.

**Proverbs 22:22-23** Rob not the poor, because he is poor: neither oppress the afflicted in the gate: For the LORD will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them.

2. Consider them

**Proverbs 31:9** Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

**Proverbs 29:14** The king that faithfully judgeth the poor, his throne shall be established for ever.

3. Invest in them

**Proverbs 19:17** He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

**Proverbs 22:9** He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

**Proverbs 21:13** Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People (Wise, Wicked, Simple, Scornful, Fool, Thief, Sluggard, Poor)

### IX. Diligent

#### A. Diligent people understand planning and preparation

1. "Plan your work and work your plan"

**Proverbs 21:5** The thoughts of the diligent *tend* only to plenteousness; but of every one *that is* hasty only to want.

2. The disciplined, faithful and hardworking person is rewarded for their labors in contrast to those who only want to get rich quick

**Proverbs 10:4** He becometh poor that dealeth *with* a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

3. Diligence in work leads to promotion and a good reputation

**Proverbs 22:29** Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean *men*.

**Proverbs 22:1** A *good* name *is* rather to be chosen than great riches, *and* loving favour rather than silver and gold.

4. The diligent are conscientious about their possessions

**Proverbs 27:23-24** Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation?

#### B. Diligent people have a proper understanding of wealth

1. Debt makes us a servant to the lender

**Proverbs 22:7** The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower *is* servant to the lender.

2. "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without"

**Proverbs 15:16** Better *is* little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

3. Wealth can give us a false sense of security

**Proverbs 11:28** He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

**Proverbs 23:4-5** Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven

4. Wealth could cause us to become proud

**Proverbs 18:11** The rich man's wealth *is* his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit.

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**Proverbs 18:23** The poor useth intreaties; but the rich answereth roughly.

5. Wealth can cause trouble at home

**Proverbs 15:27** He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live. (gifts of bribery)

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People (Wise, Wicked, Simple, Scornful, Fool, Thief, Sluggard, Poor, Diligent)

### X. Husbands and Wives

#### A. Marriage

##### 1. King Solomon and his marriages

**1 Kings 11:1-4** But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, *that* his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as *was* the heart of David his father.

##### 2. God's plan for marriage

**Genesis 2:18** And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

**Genesis 2:24-25** Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

##### 3. Marriage and its evolution

*Marriage used to be a man and woman who chose to get married and then learned to love each other – they expected to stay together for life;*

*Marriage today is a man and woman who learn to love each other and then they get married – everybody hopes they will stay together at least until the kids are out of the house*

##### 4. Marriage is to be one man, married to one woman, for one lifetime

**Proverbs 5:15-20** Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee. Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. Let her be as the

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loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love. And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?

### B. Husbands and Wives

1. A wife from the Lord is a good thing

**Proverbs 18:22** *Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.*

**Proverbs 19:14** *House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD.*

2. A wife is very important to the building of a home

**Proverbs 14:1** *Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.*

3. A wife can be a precious jewel to her husband

**Proverbs 12:4** *A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.*

**Proverbs 11:22** *As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.*

4. A contentions wife is a can be a problem to a husband (loud noise and strife in words)

**Proverbs 19:13** *A foolish son is the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping.*

**Proverbs 21:9** *It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house.*

**Proverbs 21:19** *It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.*

**Proverbs 25:24** *It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.*

**Proverbs 27:15** *A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike.*

5. A virtuous wife is desirable

- a) She is a woman of character

**Proverbs 31:10-12** *Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.*

- b) She isn't afraid to work

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**Proverbs 31:13-24** She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. (because of his clothing) She maketh fine linen, and selleth *it*; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.

**Proverbs 31:20** She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

c) She is confident

**Proverbs 31:25** Strength and honour *are* her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

d) She is a teacher of wisdom

**Proverbs 31:26** She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.

e) She is an overseer of the household

**Proverbs 31:27** She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

f) She is worthy of praise

**Proverbs 31:28-29** Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

g) She fears the Lord

**Proverbs 31:30** Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

h) She is a Godly example to others

**Proverbs 31:31** Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

# The Book of Proverbs

## Different Kinds of People (Wise, Wicked, Simple, Scornful, Fool, Thief, Sluggard, Poor, Diligent, Husbands and Wives)

### XI. Parents Training Their Children

#### A. Parents are to give Godly instruction to their children

**Proverbs 1:8** My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

**Proverbs 6:20** My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

**Proverbs 7:1** My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.

**Proverbs 22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

*Children may not turn out right, (rebels, liars, robbers, adulterers) but it should not be because of a parents training or lack thereof*

*There are not perfect children, because there are no perfect parents*

*This verse is a proverb and not a sacred promise*

#### B. Parents are to love their children and at times will include chastening

**Proverbs 3:11-12** My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

**Proverbs 13:24** He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes. (early on)

#### C. Parents need to train their children while there is still time

**Proverbs 22:15** Foolishness *is* bound in the heart of a child; *but* the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

**Proverbs 29:15** The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left *to himself* bringeth his mother to shame.

**Proverbs 29:17** Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.

**1 Samuel 3:12-13** In that day I will perform against Eli all *things* which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end. For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

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**D. Parents may need to afflict temporary pain as a means of correction** – temporary pain now is saving them from further pain and suffering later on

**Proverbs 23:13-14** Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.

**Proverbs 19:18** Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

**Proverbs 20:30** The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so *do* stripes the inward parts of the belly.

**E. Principles to apply before a spanking**

1. Diligence is needed
  - a) Parents must take the time to deal with situations
  - b) Don't put off action needed
2. Consistency is needed
  - a) Say what you mean and mean what you say
  - b) Follow through with corrective measures if that is what you promised
3. Clarity is needed
  - a) Expectations and rules need to be clear from the beginning
  - b) Children should understand that certain behaviors or actions are unacceptable
4. Fairness is needed
  - a) Corrective measures need to fit the nature and the seriousness of the wrongdoing
  - b) Was this an accident? Was it childish?

**F. Questions to ask before spanking your child:**

1. Is a spanking the most appropriate correction?
  - a) Each child has a different personality – some might need a spanking frequently – some might need a spanking occasionally
  - b) Spankings shouldn't be your first response for every infraction
2. Is this spanking going to be used to redirect the child in the way that he should go or are you merely punishing misdeeds?
3. Are you angry or out of control?
  - a) Loving correction is the key – not a severe beating
  - b) Have a place and a procedure for a spanking

# The Book of Proverbs

## G. What kinds of actions should warrant a spanking?

### 1. Disobedience

**Ephesians 6:1** Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

### 2. Lying

**Ephesians 4:25** Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

### 3. Disrespect

**Ephesians 6:2** Honour thy father and mother;

# The Book of Proverbs

**Different Kinds of People (Wise, Wicked, Simple, Scornful, Fool, Thief, Sluggard, Poor, Diligent, Husbands and Wives, Parents and Children)**

## XII. Friends and Neighbors

### A. The basis for friendship is love

*Only love will endure the tests that friends experience together*

**Proverbs 17:17** A friend **loveth** at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

**Proverbs 18:24** A man *that hath* friends must shew himself **friendly**: and there is a friend *that sticketh* closer than a brother.

*Make friends even if you don't think you need them*

*Seek out quiet people, they have a lot to say, if you say something first*

*Ask people about themselves, don't just talk about yourself*

### B. Choosing the wrong friends

#### 1. Friendships with the foolish

**Proverbs 13:20** He that walketh with wise *men* shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

**Proverbs 14:7** Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not *in him* the lips of knowledge.

#### 2. Friendship because of wealth

**Proverbs 19:4** Wealth maketh many friends; but the poor is separated from his neighbour.

*Can you be happy for your friend when they have been blessed either financially or spiritually*

#### 3. Friendships with sinners

**Proverbs 1:10-16** My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause: Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit: We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil: Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse: My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path: For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.

#### 4. Friendships with angry people

**Proverbs 22:24-25** Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

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### C. The qualities of true friendship – loyalty

**Proverbs 17:17** A friend loveth **at all times**, and a brother is born for adversity.

**Proverbs 18:24** A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that **sticketh closer** than a brother.

*Unhealthy expectations of a friendship: you aren't allowed to disagree with me, you can't have any other friends but me, you have to love my family and my other friends, you have to call me or see me every day, you have to do whatever I say, you have to like everything I like, you have to be perfect like me*

#### 1. A friend can keep things in confidence

**Proverbs 25:9-10** Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; and discover not a secret to another: Lest he that heareth it put thee to shame, and thine infamy turn not away.

**Proverbs 11:13** A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

**Proverbs 20:19** He that goeth about *as* a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.

**Proverbs 16:28** A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.

**Proverbs 17:9** He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth *very* friends.

*Before repeating something ask yourself: Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary to tell? Is it going to help or hurt? Do you have permission to repeat this story?*

#### 2. A friend can control their tongue

**Proverbs 11:9** An hypocrite with *his* mouth destroyeth his neighbour: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered.

**Proverbs 18:17** *He that is* first in his own cause *seemeth* just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.

**Proverbs 11:12** He that is void of wisdom despiseth his neighbour: but a man of understanding holdeth his peace.

**Proverbs 26:18-19** As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death, So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour, and saith, Am not I in sport? A friend is lovingly honest

#### 3. A friend is lovingly honest

**Proverbs 27:6** Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

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**Proverbs 29:5** A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet.

**Proverbs 28:23** He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.

*Can you listen when a friend tells you that you have hurt them or do you withdraw and get defensive*

**4.** A friends counsels and encourages

**Proverbs 27:9** Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.

**Proverbs 27:17** Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

*Friends will laugh with you, cry with you, build memories with you, stand by you in the difficult times, confront you when you need it, help you grow, keep you from trouble and they will bring out the best in you*

**5.** A friends exercises tact and is sensitive to feelings

**Proverbs 25:17** Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbour's house; lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee.

**Proverbs 27:14** He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him.

**Proverbs 25:20** As he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon nitre, so is he that singeth songs to an heavy heart.

*Never say anything about anyone in their absence that you wouldn't way in their presence*

# The Book of Proverbs

## Speech – the Power of Words

**Proverbs 18:21** Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

**James 3:5-8** Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

### I. Speech is an awesome gift from God

#### A. God created speech

**Proverbs 16:1** The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, *is* from the LORD.

1. God spoke to Adam
2. Adam named the animals
3. Adam described his bride
4. Satan used words to deceive Eve
5. Eve probably used words to persuade Adam to eat

#### B. Words are compared to gold and silver

**Proverbs 10:20** The tongue of the just *is as* choice silver: the heart of the wicked *is* little worth.

**Proverbs 25:11** A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

#### C. Words are like refreshing water

**Proverbs 10:11** The mouth of a righteous *man is* a well of life: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

**Proverbs 18:4** The words of a man's mouth *are as* deep waters, *and* the wellspring of wisdom *as* a flowing brook.

**Proverbs 13:14** The law of the wise *is* a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

**Proverbs 16:22** Understanding *is* a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools *is* folly.

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## D. Words are like nourishing, health giving food

**Proverbs 15:4** A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life: but perverseness therein *is* a breach in the spirit.

**Proverbs 10:21** The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.

**Proverbs 18:20** A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; *and* with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

**Proverbs 16:24** Pleasant words *are as* an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

**Proverbs 12:18** There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise *is* health.

**Proverbs 12:14** A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of *his* mouth: and the recompence of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

**Proverbs 13:2** A man shall eat good by the fruit of *his* mouth: but the soul of the transgressors *shall eat* violence.

## II. Speech can be used to do good

### A. The tongue reveals what the heart contains

**Matthew 12:34-36** O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

**James 3:10** Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be

### B. Words can bring peace instead of war

**Proverbs 15:1** A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

**Proverbs 15:18** A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but *he that is* slow to anger appeaseth strife.

### C. Words can help restore those who have sinned

**Proverbs 25:12** As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, *so is* a wise reprove upon an obedient ear.

**Proverbs 28:23** He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.

## The Book of Proverbs

**Proverbs 10:17** He *is in* the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.

**Matthew 18:15** Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

### D. Words can instruct the ignorant

**Proverbs 15:7** The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish *doeth* not so.

**Proverbs 16:21** The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning.

**Proverbs 8:6-8** Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.

**Proverbs 10:13** In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found:

### E. Words can rescue the perishing

**Proverbs 14:25** A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful *witness* speaketh lies.

**Proverbs 24:11-12** If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?

### F. Words can encourage those who are burdened

**Proverbs 12:25** Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad.

**Proverbs 15:23** A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word *spoken* in due season, how good *is it!*

**Proverbs 16:24** Pleasant words *are as* an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

## III. Speech can be used to do evil

### A. We hurt others by lying

**Proverbs 12:19** The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

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**Proverbs 12:20** Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

**Proverbs 12:22** Lying lips *are* abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly *are* his delight.

**Proverbs 14:5** A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.

**Proverbs 14:25** A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful witness speaketh lies.

**Proverbs 19:5** A false witness shall not be unpunished, and *he that* speaketh lies shall not escape.

**Proverbs 17:4** A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; *and* a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue.

**Proverbs 24:26** *Every man* shall kiss *his* lips that giveth a right answer.

**Proverbs 27:6** Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

### B. We hurt others by gossiping

**Proverbs 11:13** A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

**Proverbs 20:19** He that goeth about *as* a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.

**Proverbs 18:8** The words of a talebearer *are* as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

**Proverbs 26:22** The words of a talebearer *are* as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

**Proverbs 16:28** A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.

**Proverbs 17:9** He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth *very* friends.

**Proverbs 26:20** Where no wood is, *there* the fire goeth out: so where *there is* no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

### C. We hurt others by flattery

**Proverbs 29:5** A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet.

**Proverbs 26:28** A lying tongue hateth *those that are* afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.

**Proverbs 5:3** For the lips of a strange woman drop *as* an honeycomb, and her mouth *is* smoother than oil:

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**Proverbs 7:5** That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger *which* flattereth with her words.

**Proverbs 7:21** With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.

**Proverbs 28:23** He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.

**D.** We hurt others by speaking in anger

**Proverbs 29:22** An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.

**Proverbs 26:21** *As* coals *are* to burning coals, and wood to fire; so *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.

**Proverbs 10:12** Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

**Proverbs 15:1** A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

**E.** We hurt others by hasty and thoughtless speech

**Proverbs 29:20** Seest thou a man *that is* hasty in his words? *there is* more hope of a fool than of him.

**Proverbs 18:13** He that answereth a matter before he heareth *it*, *it is* folly and shame unto him.

**Proverbs 15:28** The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

**Proverbs 12:18** There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise *is* health.

**Proverbs 21:23** Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.

**Proverbs 13:3** He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: *but* he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

**F.** We hurt others by talking too much

**Proverbs 14:23** In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips *tendeth* only to penury.

### IV. God alone can help us used speech to do good

**Psalms 141:3** Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.

**Proverbs 16:1** The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, *is* from the LORD.

**Proverbs 19:21** *There are* many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.

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**Proverbs 10:32** The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: but the mouth of the wicked *speaketh* frowardness.

**Proverbs 15:23** A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word *spoken* in due season, how good *is it!*

**Proverbs 15:28** The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

**Proverbs 25:11-12** A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

**Proverbs 10:13-14** In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: but a rod *is* for the back of him that is void of understanding. Wise *men* lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish *is* near destruction.

**Proverbs 16:23** The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.

# The Book of Proverbs

## God's Guidance in Our Lives

*What are the essentials for knowing, doing and enjoying the will of God?*

### I. Faith

**Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

**A.** Trusting in the Lord means that we belong to Him

- 1.** We must be saved to know God's will
- 2.** We must be led by the guidance of the Holy Spirit

**B.** Trusting in the Lord means that God has a plan for our lives

- 1.** God did not send his Son to save us and then leave us on our own  
**1 Corinthians 6:20** For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.  
**Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

**Philippians 2:13** For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

- 2.** God gave us spiritual gifts to use  
**1 Corinthians 12:7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

**C.** Trusting in the Lord means that God's plan is the best thing for us

- 1.** We should not resist God's plan for our lives
- 2.** We should not complain about God's plan for our lives

**D.** Trusting in the Lord means that God will reveal His will to us in His time

- 1.** It requires patience  
**Hebrews 6:12** That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.  
**Hebrews 6:15** And so, after he (Abraham) had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.
- 2.** We must acknowledge that God's timing is best  
**Psalms 31:15** My times *are* in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

# The Book of Proverbs

## II. Commitment

### A. Total commitment

1. We are to trust Him with all of our heart
2. We are to acknowledge Him in all of our ways
3. Commitment involves everything that we do

### B. Obedience

1. The will of God isn't a curiosity for us to study; it's a command for us to obey
2. God isn't obligated to reveal His will unless we are willing to do it

### C. Sacrifice

**Romans 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

*Too many Christians are cafeteria Christians, we pick and choose what we want instead of letting God plan and prepare the entire meal*

## III. Instruction

### A. Listen to instruction

**Proverbs 13:1** A wise son *heareth* his father's instruction: but a scorner *heareth* not rebuke.

**Proverbs 4:13** Take fast hold of instruction; let *her* not go: keep her; for she *is* thy life.

**Proverbs 9:9** Give *instruction* to a wise *man*, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just *man*, and he will increase in learning.

**Romans 10:17** So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

### B. Apply ourselves to that instruction

**Proverbs 2:1-5** My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

# The Book of Proverbs

1. Receive the Word
2. Treasure the Word
3. Listen to the Word
4. Apply ourselves to the Word
5. Cry out for the Word
6. Search for the Word

## C. Pray for understanding

**John 15:7** If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

**Proverbs 28:9** He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *shall be* abomination.

**Proverbs 15:8** The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright *is* his delight.

## IV. Counsel

### A. The need for counsel

**Proverbs 20:18** *Every* purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.

**Proverbs 12:15** The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel *is* wise.

### B. Christian parents can give counsel

**Proverbs 23:22** Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.

**Proverbs 6:20-23** My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:

**Proverbs 13:1** A wise son *heareth* his father's instruction: but a scorner *heareth* not rebuke.

### C. Christian friends can give counsel

**Proverbs 27:9** Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so *doth* the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel

**Proverbs 27:17** Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

**Proverbs 27:6** Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

## The Book of Proverbs

### D. Counselors can bring rebuke

**Proverbs 15:31-32** The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise. He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

**Proverbs 28:23** He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.

### E. Many counselors can assure a wise decision

**Proverbs 11:14** Where no counsel *is*, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors *there is* safety.

**Proverbs 15:22** Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

**Proverbs 24:6** For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors *there is* safety.

## V. Plans

### A. We must be active in seeking God's will

**James 2:26** For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

### B. We can gather facts and information

**Proverbs 13:16** Every prudent *man* dealeth with knowledge: but a fool layeth open *his* folly.

**Proverbs 18:13** He that answereth a matter before he heareth *it*, *it is* folly and shame unto him.

**Proverbs 14:8** The wisdom of the prudent *is* to understand his way: but the folly of fools *is* deceit.

### C. We can use the knowledge that God has given us

**Proverbs 16:1-3** The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD. All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits. Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

### D. God can reveal things to us if we are not on the right path

**Philippians 3:15** Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

**Proverbs 16:9** A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

# The Book of Proverbs

## VI. Obedience

**A.** We must not think that we have all the answers

**Proverbs 3:7** Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

**Proverbs 11:2-3** When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

**B.** God did not promise us an easy path, but the right path

# The Book of Proverbs

## Specific Sins Mentioned in Proverbs

### Introduction

Sin has become an important part of television entertainment due to the constant pressure for higher program ratings. Evil activities that we ought to be weeping over are new sources of entertainment – they are vividly displayed on movie and television screens and discussed in depth in newspapers, magazines and on the internet. The all seeing camera moves into the bedroom and the courtroom and enables excited viewers to enjoy sin as if they were present. Movies and television are instructing generation after generation of children how to ridicule virginity, laugh at sobriety, challenge authority and reject honesty. Actors, actresses and advertisers have convinced us that “having fun,” “feeling good” and “getting away with it” are now the main goals in life. Proverbs addresses these sins that are weakening our homes, threatening the peace of our communities and destroying homes and families.

### I. Disrespect

#### A. Disrespect for parents and authority

**Proverbs 30:11-14** There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother. There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness. There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up. There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men.

**Proverbs 30:17** The eye *that* mocketh at *his* father, and despiseth to obey *his* mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

#### B. Disrespect for instruction

**Proverbs 15:5** A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

**Proverbs 13:13** Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.

# The Book of Proverbs

## II. Deceit

**A.** Trying to impress one another – hypocrites

**Proverbs 13:7** There is that maketh himself rich, yet *hath* nothing: *there is* that maketh himself poor, yet *hath* great riches.

**B.** Clinging to deceptive illusions

**Proverbs 14:8** The wisdom of the prudent *is* to understand his way: but the folly of fools *is* deceit.

**Proverbs 12:20** Deceit *is* in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace *is* joy.

**1.** There are no consequences – just do as you please

**2.** If it feels good, it must be okay

**3.** The most important thing in life is to have fun

**4.** There are no absolutes – no truth

**5.** The older generation can't teach you anything

**6.** Commitment is enslavement – keep yourself free and clear

## III. Desire for more – greed, covetousness

**A.** It is a sin to focus your whole life on making money

**Proverbs 15:27** He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

**B.** It is a sin to not be content

**Proverbs 27:20** Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

## IV. Drunkenness

**A.** Alcohol is a mocker – it ridicules, it deceives

**Proverbs 20:1** Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

**1.** It creates a thirst for more while not satisfying that thirst

**2.** It gives a false sense of happiness and strength

**B.** Alcohol can lead to poverty – it is addictive

**Proverbs 21:17** He that loveth pleasure *shall be* a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.

**Proverbs 23:20-21** Be not among winebibbers (heavy drinkers); among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

## The Book of Proverbs

### C. Alcohol can alter our behavior and judgment

**Proverbs 23:29-35** Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

**Proverbs 31:4-5** *It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.*

# The Book of Proverbs

## D. Alcohol is not for the Christian

### 1. Drunkenness is a sin

**Ephesians 5:18** And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

**Isaiah 5:11** Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, *that* they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, *till* wine inflame them!

### 2. Drinking alcohol may lead to other sins

a) Noah's drunkenness led to sin (Genesis 9:20-25)

b) Lot's drunkenness led to sin (Genesis 19:30-38)

### 3. Giving alcohol to someone else is may lead to sin

**Habakkuk 2:15** Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to *him*, and makest *him* drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!

### 4. The word "wine" as used in the Bible has a different connotation than it does today

a) Wine as used in the Bible may refer to fermented or unfermented drink

b) Fermentation in the Bible may have been used for preservation

c) Bible wines were often diluted with water

d) Modern wine has a much higher alcohol content

### 5. We are to treat our bodies as the temple of God

**1 Corinthians 6:19** What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

### 6. The use of alcohol as a beverage does not bring glory to God

**1 Corinthians 10:31** Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

### 7. Total abstinence from drinking will prevent drunkenness