



## PROVERBS

# Sermon Series Notes



### "Words of Wisdom" Proverbs (An Overview)

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Intro: My prayer in doing these overviews (Job, and especially Psalms last week, and now Proverbs, is that it will "whet your appetite" to make them a regular part of your daily Bible reading.

As I shared this past weekend, I currently use "The Victory Bible Reading Plan." It gives me a Psalm for each day, and I simply add a proverb that corresponds to the day's date (Today I read Proverbs 24).

Solomon is the author, though some of the proverbs are written by others, then compiled by Solomon (See Eccl.12:9). Two other names we know who wrote some of these proverbs are "Agur" (Prov.30:1), and King Lemuel & his mother (Prov.31:1).

Psalms is a book of devotions, while Proverbs is a book about daily living. Every relationship in life is mentioned here. A proverb is a brief, popular statement that expresses a general truth (A stitch in time saves nine"). Many proverbs use figurative language ("Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones," Prov.16:24). The Proverbs are like an owner's manual for life, explaining what choice we must make to avoid serious problems, and what path leads to "life" and blessing from God.

Some more well known proverbs: Prov.3:5-6, 9; 9:10; 12:11/ 28:19; 14:12/16:25; 16:18; 17:1; 18:17; 19:2-3; 24:10; 25:21-22 (Rom.12), 28; 26:11; 27:2, 14; 29:1; 31:10-31.

Proverbs 1:1-19 I believe is a good overview of Proverbs...v.7 fear of the Lord, v.8 parental instruction, vv.10-19 avoiding the wrong crowd.

Proverbs is essentially choices between wisdom and foolishness.

Highlights in Proverbs:

1. The value of wisdom

- Prov.2:1-15; 3:1-2, 13-18; 4:6-7, 20-23; 8:11, 35-36
- Col.2: 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

2. Wisdom & sexual sin

- Prov.2:12-19; 5:3-5; 6:23b-26, 32; 7:4-5, 24-27; 9:13-18; 11:22; 9:17-18; 23:26-28
- I Thess. 4:3-8

### 3. Wisdom & the tongue

- Prov.12:18; 13:3; 15:1-2, 4; 16:23; 17:9, 14, 28;18:8, 21;20:3, 19; 21:23; 25:11,15; 26:20-22.
- James 3: 2 We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.

### 4. Wisdom & parenting

- Articles on parenting...
- Prov.10:13;13:24;14:3; 19:18; 22:6,15;23:13-14; 26:3 29:15,17;
- Don't bribe your child; Don't repeatedly warn your child and then have no consequences; repeated warnings just teaches a child to disobey; Don't allow the child to appeal to the weaker parent; I believe we should use an object to spank (a wooden spoon, a CC rod)
- A child needs to be trained with external control that he may one day have internal control.
- Don't fear the loss of their love as much as the loss of their respect.
- Studies at The University of Maryland years ago (& reported in Reader's Digest) identified the primary cause of violence in children as "lack of authority." "In the families we've seen...there is one disturbance in authority hierarchy. Usually one or both parents have abdicated the executive position. The majority shy away from firmly stating that they, rather than the children, should set the rules. A substantial number even acknowledged that the adolescent is in charge of the family.
- Eph.6:4

### 5. Wisdom & diligence

- Diligence: Constant & earnest effort to accomplish what is undertaken.
- Prov.6:6-10; 10:4-5, 26; 12:24, 27; 13:4; 15:19; 19:15, 24; 20:4; 21:5; 22:13; 24:30; 26:13-16.

## CONCLUSION

\* Solomon writing the Proverbs...one thing to write them, another to heed them! Solomon failed to take his own advice...