

Proverbs 1 - 21

Traditional Author: King Solomon, Words of Agur (30), Words of King Lemuel (31:1-9).

Approximate Time of Writing: Most were probably written between 970 - 930 B.C., but they were compiled later by Hezekiah's scribes between 615 – 586 B.C, according to:

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

General Content: Wisdom Literature. These are short, general principles known as maxims. Godly guidance for life written by Jewish sages. Guidance and wise principles to live by.

Some of the Subjects Addressed: Wisdom, righteousness, Godly living, the fear of The Lord, morality, diligence, self-control, justice, mercy, practical life teachings for all. Along with Job and Ecclesiastes, this book focuses on wisdom and personifies it in some very interesting ways.

Chapter 1 General Introduction and Call to Pursue Wisdom

- v. 1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel.
- v. 3 - 6 The primary reason this book was written.
- v. 7 The starting point is, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge:"
- v. 20-21 Wisdom personified as a vendor in the streets.

Chapter 2 Call to Pursue Wisdom

- v. 1 "If you will receive my words and if you will treasure my commandments"
- v. 2 "If you incline your ear to wisdom and if you apply your heart to understand"
- v. 3 "If you cry after knowledge and lift up your voice for understanding"
- v. 4 "If you seek her as silver and search for her as hidden treasures"
- v. 5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

Chapter 3 - 4 Call to Pursue Wisdom

- 4:3 David's son is writing these words.
- 4:7 Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.
- 4:18 - 19 The paths of the Just and wicked are contrasted.

Chapter 5 Call to Pursue Wisdom and Solomon's Advice on Women

Prov 5:15 Drink water from your own cistern [*of a pure marriage relationship*]. AMP

Chapter 6 Call to Pursue Wisdom

- v. 1 - 5 Don't co-sign loans.
- v. 6 - 11 Financial principles from observing the lives of ants.

- v. 16 - 19 Seven abominations before the Lord.
- v. 32 Key verse on adultery. It destroys your soul.

Chapter 7 A progressive slide into adultery and ruin.

Chapter 8 - 9 Wisdom Personified and a Call to Pursue Wisdom

8:12 I wisdom, ...possess knowledge and discretion.

Prov 8:17 I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me. NIV

8:21 That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; KJV

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

Chapter 10 -21 General Proverbs of Solomon

10:1 The proverbs of Solomon.

11:14b In the multitude of councilors there is safety.

Prov 12:1 Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid. NIV

13:12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.

Prov 13:22 A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous. NIV

14:12 There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

15:1 A soft answer turneth away wrath: but harsh words stir up anger. KJV

Prov 16:3 Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans. NIV

16:7 When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him. KJV

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

16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. KJV

Prov 17:5 Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished. NIV

Prov 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity. NIV

17:22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

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. KJV (80/20 Rule)

18:16 A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men. KJV

18:19 A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle. KJV

Prov 19:17 Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done. NIV

Prov 20:1 Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler; whoever is led astray by them is not wise. NIV

21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will. KJV