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Proverbs

by
Duane L. Anderson



Serve and Equip

Proverbs

Detailed Bible Book Outline

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**Proverbs
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Proverbs

I. Introduction to the book of Proverbs - 1:1-7

A. The writer of the book - 1:1

Solomon was the writer of most of the proverbs
Solomon was the son of David
Solomon and David were both kings of Israel

B. The purpose of the book - 1:2-6

Proverbs help us to know wisdom

Wisdom - the perfect blend of the will of God with the experiences of life

Proverbs help us to receive instruction

This is instruction that leads to a God-centered life - Prov. 3:11

Proverbs help us to perceive the words of understanding

Understanding given by God which protects us from sin - Prov. 3:5

Proverbs will help us to receive the instruction of wisdom

The purpose of proverbs is to help us receive wisdom - Prov. 2:6

Proverbs will teach us justice, judgment and equity

Proverbs will give prudence to the simple

Here prudence speaks of wise behavior - Prov. 8:5

Proverbs will teach a young man knowledge and discretion

Discretion is used in Proverbs to speak of wisdom or its lack - Prov. 5:2

Proverbs will help a wise man hear and increase learning

A wise man who hears will live safely - Prov. 1:33

Proverbs will help a man of understanding to acquire wise counsel

Knowledge which leads to understanding - Prov. 14:33

Proverbs will help a person to understand difficult questions

Proverbs help us to understand the wise and their riddles

C. The foundation for all wisdom - 1:7

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge

Knowledge learned through personal experience but given by God

Fools despise wisdom and instruction

A fool says there is no God - Ps. 14:1; Ps. 53:1

A fool does not receive instruction that leads to a God-centered life - Prov. 3:11

II. Proverbs written especially to the young - 1:8-9:18

A. The encouragement to avoid evil people - 1:1-19

1. Wise young people hear the instruction of parents - 1:8-9

**A wise son is given instruction by his father
A wise son does not reject the teaching of his mother
Such instruction is like a graceful wreath
Such instruction is like a beautiful necklace**

2. Wise young people avoid the counsel of the ungodly - 1:10-14

The ungodly try to deceive the godly
This word for sinners is always used for unbelievers - Ps. 1:1
The ungodly may invite the godly to join them in shedding blood
The ungodly may invite the godly to help them destroy the innocent
Caiaphas, the high priest, demonstrated this - John 11:49-53
The ungodly say they can destroy the innocent
The chief priests demonstrated this - Matt. 27:3-4
The ungodly say they will gain all kinds of wealth
The ungodly say they can fill their houses with plunder
The ungodly promise to share wealth gained by evil

3. Wise young people avoid the ways of the ungodly - 1:15-19

A wise father warns his son not to walk with the ungodly
A wise father warns about where the evil are going
Their sin will one day be revealed - Num. 32:23
The evil run to do more evil
The evil are quick to shed blood
It is useless to spread a net in the sight of any bird
Their conscience still gives a warning - Rom. 3:15
The evil actually are setting a trap for their own destruction
The ungodly will not stand in the judgment - Ps. 1:5
The evil who are greedy for gain are quick to follow evil ways
The love of money is a root of all sorts of evil - I Tim. 6:10
Greed for quick gain destroys the lives of those who follow it
This happened to the chief priests - John 11:47-48; Luke 19:41-44

B. The encouragement to listen to wisdom - 1:20-33

1. Wisdom is available to all who seek it - 1:20-23

Wisdom is available to everyone who will seek it
Wisdom is given openly to all who seek it
Wisdom is available in the noisy streets
Wisdom is available at the entrances to the city
Wisdom speaks to all who will listen
Wisdom offers understanding to those who seek it - Prov. 9:4-6
Wisdom is not seen by those who do not know right and wrong
Those who mock and sin delight in their mocking
Fools hate understanding given by God
A fool is deceived by his own foolishness - Prov. 14:16
People are invited to turn and hear the rebuke
The Lord will pour out His Spirit on those who listen
Jesus publicly offered life to all who would seek it - John 7:37
The Lord will make His words known

2. Wisdom is rejected by many - 1:24-25

Wisdom has called but is often rejected
Many do not pay attention to godly wisdom
Many ignore the instruction of the Lord - Prov. 13:18
The counsel of the Lord is rejected by many
Many refuse the instruction of the Lord - Prov. 15:32
Many do not want to hear the reproof given by godly wisdom

3. Wisdom rejected leads to serious consequences - 1:26-27

Wisdom rejected will lead to calamity
This is the consequence for those who reject - Prov. 6:15
Terror will come when the judgment comes
This judgment (dread) can be present continually - Deut. 28:66-67
Judgment will come like a storm
This dread will lead to eternal judgment - Rev. 20:10-15
Destruction will come like a whirlwind
Then the wicked will be no more - Prov. 10:24-25
Distress and anguish will come on those who reject

4. Those who reject wisdom will experience judgment - 1:28-30

Those who reject wisdom will call when judgment comes

This is illustrated by the rich man in Luke 16:22-24

They will call but they will not be answered

There is no forgiveness after death - Heb. 9:27

They will seek but it will be too late

There is no way to pass from judgment to life - Luke 16:26

They will not find the Lord once judgment comes

They will be judged for their works at the judgment - Rev. 20:11-15

This will happen because they hated knowledge

They rejected the understanding given by God - Prov. 1:7

This will happen because they did not fear the Lord

The fear of the Lord causes people to depart from evil - Prov. 16:6

They rejected the counsel of the Lord

The counsel of the Lord will stand forever - Prov. 19:21

They despised every rebuke of the Lord

They will face sudden destruction - Prov. 29:1

5. Those who reject wisdom destroy themselves - 1:31-32

They will reap the consequences of what they have sown

The godless will reap what they have sown - Gal. 6:7-8

They will reap the fact they chose only their own desires

They will reap the fruit that they have sown - Matt. 7:17-23

The turning away of the simple will kill them

Their turning away (backsliding) will destroy them - Jer. 2:19

The ease of fools will destroy them

Many fools depend on their riches - Luke 12:16-21

6. Those who seek wisdom will live without fear - 1:33

Those who listen to the Lord will live safely

This gives peace day and night - Prov. 3:24

Those who listen to the Lord will be secure

This is the promise to Israel in the future - Jer. 46:27-28

Those who listen to the Lord will be without fear of evil

The Lord is the source of all wisdom - Prov. 3:19-20

Those who listen to Him will not fear the wicked - Prov. 3:24-26

C. The encouragement to avoid the adulteress - 2:1-22

1. Wisdom delivers a person from evil - 2:1-9

a. A wise father wants his son to receive wisdom - 2:1-3

A father encourages his son to receive his words

The wise in heart will receive commandments - Prov. 10:8

A father encourages his son to treasure his commands

A father encourages his son to open his ear to wisdom

Godly wisdom that leads to right paths - Prov. 4:11

A father encourages his son to seek understanding

To gain knowledge that leads to understanding - Prov. 15:21

A father encourages his son to cry out for discernment

A father encourages his son to cry out for understanding

b. A wise father wants his son to seek wisdom - 2:4-5

A father wants his son to seek wisdom like silver

A father wants his son to search for wisdom like a hidden treasure

Godly wisdom is worth more than gold - Prov. 16:16

A father knows then his son will understand the fear of the Lord

A father knows then his son will find the knowledge of God

c. A wise father wants his son to gain the wisdom of the Lord - 2:6-9

The Lord is the One who gives wisdom

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Prov. 9:10

The Lord also gives knowledge and understanding

The knowledge of the Holy One is understanding - Prov. 9:10

The Lord stores up sound wisdom for the upright

The righteousness of the upright will deliver them - Prov. 11:6

The Lord is a shield to those who walk uprightly

The Lord does not withhold good things from the upright - Ps. 84:11

The Lord guards the paths of justice

The Lord preserves the way of His saints

The Lord wants us to understand righteousness and justice

A person who speaks the truth declares righteousness - Prov. 12:17

The Lord wants us to follow uprightness and every good path

2. Wisdom delivers from the evil man - 2:10-15

a. Wisdom enters the heart and preserves a person - 2:10-11

Wisdom will enter into the heart of a person

Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has understanding - Prov. 14:33

Knowledge is pleasant to the soul

Knowledge of the Holy One is understanding - Prov. 9:10

Discretion will preserve a person

This discretion comes from seeking and practicing wisdom - Prov. 5:1-2

Understanding will keep a person

Sound wisdom will give a person understanding - Prov. 8:14

One who is slow to wrath has great understanding - Prov. 14:29

b. Wisdom delivers a person from those who speak perverse things - 2:12-13

Wisdom delivers from the way of the evil man

A wise man fears and departs from evil - Prov. 14:16

The way of the Lord is strength for the upright - Prov. 10:29

Wisdom delivers one from a man who speaks perverse things

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom - Prov. 10:30-32

A perverse man sows strife and devises perverse things - Prov. 16:27-30

Wisdom protects from the those who leave paths of uprightness

Those who walk in uprightness fear the Lord - Prov. 14:2

Wisdom prevents a person from walking in darkness

The wicked do not know why they stumble - Prov. 4:19

The fool walks in darkness - Eccles. 2:14

c. Wisdom delivers a person from evil people - 2:14-15

A person is delivered by wisdom from those who do evil

The righteous person will never be removed - Prov. 10:30-32

A person is delivered by wisdom from those who delight in perversity

A heart of a perverse man is an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 11:20

A perverse man is one who sows strife - Prov. 16:28

A person is delivered by wisdom from those whose ways are crooked

One who has a deceitful heart finds no good - Prov. 17:20

A person is delivered by wisdom from following the paths of the devious

One who is devious in his ways despises the Lord - Prov. 14:2

3. Wisdom delivers from the immoral woman - 2:16-22

a. The immoral woman has turned from God - 2:16-17

Wisdom gives protection from the adulterous woman

The adulterous woman is a seductress

Her words are sweet like honey - Prov. 5:3

Her words are like a deep pit - Prov. 22:14

Her heart is bitter as wormwood - Prov. 5:4

The adulterous woman flatters with her words

She uses flattery to attract men to her - Prov. 7:5

This is illustrated in Proverbs 7:14-20 especially verse 15

The adulterous woman forsakes the companion of her youth

This speaks of divorce from the husband of her youth - Mal. 2:14-16

The adulterous woman forgets the covenant of her God

This is the result of forsaking her marriage vow - Gen. 2:24

b. The immoral woman leads others down the path of death - 2:18-19

The house of the adulterous woman leads down to death

She uses enticing speech to attract the foolish - Prov. 7:21-23

The paths of the adulterous woman are paths to death

Her path casts down many and her house leads to hell - Prov. 7:24-27

The adulterous woman often deceives others permanently

One who practices adultery destroys his own soul - Prov. 6:32

Those who follow the adulterous woman seldom seek the paths of life

c. The upright will be blessed by the Lord - 2:20-22

The upright are encouraged to walk in the way of goodness

A good man obtains favor from the Lord - Prov. 12:2

The upright will keep to the paths of righteousness

The integrity of the upright will guide them - Prov. 11:3

The upright will dwell in the land

The highway of the upright is to depart from evil - Prov. 16:17

The upright will remain and experience life

The wicked will be cut off from the earth

The transgressors will be rooted out

The Lord will destroy the proud - Prov. 15:25

D. The encouragement to trust in the Lord - 3:1-10

1. We are to make it our goal to obey the Lord - 3:1-4

The Law of God will lead our lives
The Law of God will guide our hearts
Obedience to the Lord will lengthen our days
Obedience will also add peace to our lives
Inner peace is the result of obedience - Phil. 4:4-9
Mercy and truth are to be the characteristic of our lives
Mercy and truth transform our lives - Prov. 16:6
Mercy and truth will be shown by our actions
Mercy and truth come from our hearts
These will cause our lives to be respected
This respect will come from both God and men

2. We do this by trusting in the Lord - 3:5-6

We are to trust the Lord with all our heart
Out of the heart spring the issues of life - Prov. 4:23
We are not to depend on our own understanding
Knowledge of the Holy One is understanding - Prov. 9:10
We are to acknowledge the Lord in everything we do
A man of understanding walks uprightly - Prov. 15:21
We are to trust Him to direct our paths
The Lord will lead us in the right paths - Prov. 11:5

3. We do not depend on our own wisdom - 3:7-10

We are not to depend on our own wisdom
The wise in heart receive commandments - Prov. 10:8
We are to fear the Lord and depart from evil
This will bring healing to our body
This will give moisture to our bones
The marrow of his bones is moist - Job 21:24
We are to honor the Lord with our possessions
We are to place the Lord first in our giving
The Lord will then provide us with more than enough
The Lord will cause our containers to overflow

E. The encouragement to understand the value of wisdom - 3:11-18

1. The Lord develops our lives through correction - 3:11-12

We are not to despise the discipline of the Lord

The Lord disciplines for our profit - Heb. 12:10

We are not to reject His correction

Those who hear reproof gain understanding - Prov. 15:31-32

The Lord loves those that He corrects

The Lord disciplines us for our own benefit - Heb. 12:11

A father does the same with a son in whom he delights

2. The Lord gives wisdom and understanding - 3:13

A man who finds wisdom will be happy

Those who seek godly wisdom are blessed - Prov. 8:32

Those who trust in the Lord are happy - Prov. 16:20

The same will be true for a man who gains understanding

A person of understanding has wisdom - Prov. 10:23

3. The Lord explains the value of wisdom - 3:14-18

Wisdom has greater value than silver

Wisdom is greater in value than fine gold

To get wisdom is better than to get gold - Prov. 16:16

Wisdom is more precious than rubies

Nothing can be compared to the value of wisdom

Wisdom may lengthen the time a person lives

Wisdom brings long life and peace - Prov.3:2

Wisdom may also bring riches and honor

Wisdom produces enduring riches - Prov. 8:18

The ways of wisdom are pleasant ways

Wisdom leads to paths of peace

Understanding helps a person avoid conflict- Prov. 11:12

Wisdom is like a tree of life to those who take hold of her

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life - Prov. 11:30

Those who speak wholesome words are like a tree of life - Prov. 15:4

Those who hold fast to wisdom will experience happiness

Honor is the result of enduring riches and righteousness - Prov. 8:18

F. The encouragement to act with wisdom - 3:19-26

1. The Lord founded the earth with wisdom - 3:19-20

**The Lord created the earth by wisdom
The Lord established the heavens by understanding
The Lord broke up the depths by knowledge
The Lord caused the clouds to give the dew**

2. The Lord gives wisdom to keep us from stumbling - 3:21-23

The Lord wants us to let wisdom guide us
The heart is what guides our lives - Prov. 4:20-23
The Lord wants us to have sound wisdom and discretion
Wisdom enters our heart - Prov. 2:2; Prov. 3:1
The Lord says wisdom will give life to our souls
Knowledge is pleasant to our soul - Prov. 2:10
The Lord says wisdom we be grace to our neck
The Lord says wisdom will cause us to walk safely
This happens when we ask the Lord to direct our steps - Prov. 16:9
The Lord says wisdom will prevent us from stumbling

3. The Lord gives wisdom which removes fear - 3:24-28

The Lord says wisdom will protect us from fear
Godly wisdom provides sound wisdom - Prov. 8:14
The Lord says wisdom will give us restful sleep
The Lord says not to be afraid of sudden fear
The Lord says not to fear trouble from the wicked when it comes
The way of the wicked is darkness which causes them to stumble - Prov. 4:19
The Lord will then be the source of our confidence
This will only happen when we have a humble heart - Prov. 28:25
The Lord will keep our foot from being caught
We are to do good to those whom it is due
We are to do good when we have the opportunity to do it
We are to do good to all especially the household of faith - Gal. 6:10
We are not to refuse to help our neighbor today
A neighbor can be anyone with a genuine need - Luke 10:29-37
We are to give when we have what will meet a need

G. The encouragement to show kindness to others - 3:29-35

1. The Lords warns against doing evil - 3:29-30

Do not devise harm against your neighbor
A wicked man sows evil and discord - Prov. 6:14
One who lacks wisdom does despise his neighbor - Prov. 11:12
Your neighbor often lives beside you for safety
Do not complain against another without a just cause
He has done no harm against you

2. The Lord warns about the danger of envy - 3:31-32

Do not envy a man of violence
Do not desire to be like him - Prov. 24:1
His future is destruction - Prov. 24:19-20
Do not choose the ways of a man of violence
We are not to enter the path of the wicked - Prov. 4:14
A perverse person is an abomination to the Lord
A perverse person despises the Lord - Prov. 14:2
The counsel of the Lord is with the upright
The Lord gives wise counsel through the upright- Prov. 15:22

3. The Lord gives grace to the humble - 3:33-35

The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked
The Lord blesses the house of the righteous
One who is slow to anger has great understanding - Prov. 14:29
The Lord scoffs at the scoffers
The scoffer seeks wisdom but does not find it - Prov. 14:6
The person who is quick-tempered exalts folly - Prov. 14:33
The Lord gives grace to the humble
The Lord gives grace to the humble - Jam. 4:6; I Pet. 5:5
The wise will inherit glory (honor)
Honor comes to those who practice humility - Prov.15:33
Honor shall uphold the humble in spirit - Prov. 29:23
The fools raise high their dishonor
Those who are fools pour out their foolishness - Prov. 15:2; 15:14
The fool has no delight in understanding but only in speaking - Prov. 18:2

H. The encouragement to get wisdom - 4:1-9

1. Godly fathers give their children wise counsel -4:1-4

Children need to hear the instruction of their father
Children should give attention to understanding
The Lord is the One who gives understanding - Prov. 3:5-6
Godly fathers give sound teaching
Sound teaching is both lived and taught - I Tim. 4:12-16
Godly fathers encourage children to listen to instruction
Solomon was taught by his father
Solomon was taught when he was the only son of his mother
Solomon was taught and given instruction
Solomon was encouraged to keep instruction in his heart
Out of the heart spring the issues of life - Prov. 4:23
Solomon was told that instruction would give life

2. Godly fathers encourage wisdom and understanding - 4:5-6

Children are to get wisdom
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Prov. 9:10
Children are to get understanding
This speaks of understanding given by God - Prov. 2:2-5
Children are told not to forget that instruction
Children are told that wisdom will preserve them
Those who have wisdom will not be cut off - Prov. 24:14
Children are told that wisdom will watch over them

3. Godly fathers share the value of wisdom - 4:7-9

Children are to place a high value on wisdom
One who has understanding will speak wisdom - Prov. 10:13
Children are also to get understanding
Children are to prize wisdom
Wisdom has much greater value than gold - Prov. 16:16
Children see wisdom brings honor when they embrace it
Children will see that wisdom brings grace
Children will see that wisdom will result in a crown of glory
Godly leaders are promised a crown of glory - I Pet. 5:4

I. The encouragement to avoid the path of the wicked - 4:10-19

Wisdom will lead a person in the right path - 4:10-13

Solomon encouraged his son to hear his sayings
Solomon said this would give him long life
Solomon had taught his son the way of wisdom
Solomon had led his son in right paths
One who follows right paths will not be hindered
One who runs will not stumble
This is the result of taking firm hold of instruction
This instruction is the source for life

Wisdom will keep a person from the path of the wicked - 4:14-17

Wisdom causes one to avoid the path of the wicked
The wise man avoids the counsel of the wicked - Ps. 1:1
Wisdom causes one to avoid walking in the way of the wicked
The way of the wicked seduces the wicked - Prov. 12:26
Wisdom causes one to avoid traveling the path of the wicked
Wisdom causes one to turn from that path
The wicked do not sleep unless they have done evil
The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood - Prov. 12:6
The wicked do not sleep until they make someone fall
The wicked eat the bread of wickedness
The wicked is driven away in his wickedness - Prov. 14:32
The wicked drink the wine of violence
Violence covers the mouth of the wicked - Prov. 10:11

One path leads to light the other to darkness - 4:18-19

The path of the just (righteous) is like the shining of the sun
The path of the righteous has an everlasting foundation - Prov. 10:24-25
The sun shines brighter as the day goes along
The righteous is delivered out of trouble - Prov. 11:8
The way of the wicked is like darkness
People love darkness because their way is evil - John 3:18
The wicked do not even know what makes them stumble
The wicked stumble into mischief - Prov. 24:16

J. The encouragement to follow wisdom from your heart - 4:20-27

1. Wisdom needs to be heard to be life changing - 4:20

We are to pay attention to words of wisdom

This is wisdom to protect from the immoral woman - Prov. 5:1-2; 7:24-27

We are to open our ear to the sayings of wisdom

We are to hear the words of the wise and apply it to our hearts - Prov. 22:17

2. Wisdom must be from the heart to be life changing - 4:21-23

Wisdom should never be out of sight

Wisdom must start in the heart (the inner man)

This is an inner choice made by each person - Prov. 7:1-2

Wisdom gives life to those who follow words of wisdom

The outer actions are determined by the heart - Luke 6:45

Wisdom gives health to those who act with wisdom

Wisdom is to be diligently guarded in our lives

Wisdom is the source for the issues of life

The Lord is the One who causes us to escape from death - Ps. 68:19-20

3. Wisdom will transform the actions as it is life changing - 4:24-27

We are to put away a deceitful mouth

A wicked man walks with a perverse heart - Prov. 6:11

We are to put far from us devious speech

The Lord put our sin far from us - Ps. 103:12

The person who is perverse in his lips is a fool - Prov. 19:1

We are to let our eyes look straight ahead

We are to let our gaze be straight in front of us

The righteousness of the upright delivers them - Prov. 11:5

We are to think about the way we are walking

The way we are walking can lead us the wrong way - Prov. 5:6

The way we are walking can lead us the right way - Prov. 5:21

We are to let all of our ways be established

We are blessed if we follow the ways of the Lord - Prov. 8:32

We are not to turn to the right or the left

We are to remove our foot from evil

Wisdom causes us to depart from the snares of death - Prov. 14:27

K. The encouragement to avoid immorality - 5:1-23

1. The description of an immoral woman - 5:1-6

a. The call to gain understanding - 5:1-2

Solomon encouraged his son to pay attention to his wisdom

To pay attention means to hear and do - I Sam. 15:22

Solomon encouraged his son to hear his understanding

The danger for one who does not hear those who instruct - Prov. 5:13

Solomon wanted his son to appreciate wisdom

When appreciated it will be obeyed from the heart - Prov. 4:21

Solomon wanted his son to share that wisdom

Godly wisdom will be shown by words and actions - Prov. 6:22

b. The words of an immoral woman - 5:3-4

The lips of an immoral woman drip sweet words

The words drop down like a cloud dropping water - Jud. 5:4

The mouth of an immoral woman are smoother than oil

A flattering mouth causes ruin - Prov. 26:28

In the end the immoral woman is bitter as wormwood

A woman with a bitter heart is worse than death - Eccles. 7:26

A root of bitterness destroys any person - Deut. 29:18

Her words are like a sharp two-edged sword

Their words are like a sharp sword - Ps. 57:4

c. The heart of an immoral woman - 5:5-6

Her feet are on the way to death

The way of an immoral woman leads to death - Prov. 2:18

Her steps take hold of Sheol

Her house is the way to hell - Prov. 7:27; 9:18

She does not think about the path that she is taking

They do not know where their path takes them - Prov. 4:14-15

Her ways are unstable

Her path is like a blind man wandering in the streets - Lam. 4:14-15

She does not know where her ways are taking her

The immoral woman is deceived by her own ways - Prov. 9:13

2. The consequences of seeking immoral women - 5:7-14

a. The warning to avoid the immoral woman - 5:7-8

Solomon wanted his sons to listen to him

Solomon wanted his children to listen to him - Prov. 7:24

Solomon did not want them to depart from his words

Solomon did not want his children to go astray - Prov. 7:25

Solomon told them to stay away from the immoral woman

The immoral woman uses enticing speech - Prov. 7:21

Solomon told them not to go near her house

Solomon observed what some young men did - Prov. 7:6-9

b. The consequences of rejecting instruction - 5:9-11

Solomon warned his sons not to give their honor to others

The wise receive glory and fools receive shame - Prov. 3:35

Solomon said they would give their years to the cruel one

This is one of the consequences for the rebellious - Prov. 17:11

Solomon said strangers would be filled with their strength

Solomon said their work would be for an alien

Their hard-earned money would go to others - Prov. 20:16

Solomon said that they would mourn at the last

Solomon said that their flesh and body would be consumed

An immoral man sins against his own body - I Cor. 6:18

c. The results when a person rejects instruction - 5:12-14

Solomon said they would say they hated instruction

Those who sow iniquity reap sorrow - Prov. 22:8

Solomon said their heart would say it despised correction

One who rejects instruction despises his own soul - Prov. 15:32

Solomon said that was the result of not listening to their teachers

Solomon said that was the result of not hearing instruction

Those who hate reproof will often die early - Prov. 15:10

Solomon said it would lead to total ruin

The life of the wicked will be extinguished - Prov. 24:20

Solomon said it would lead to public disgrace

The evil would be come known and talked about by people - Prov. 6:33

3. The Lord examines our choices - 5:15-23

a. The encouragement to be faithful to one's wife - 5:15-17

Drink water from your own cistern
Drink fresh water from your own well
Otherwise your own water will be stolen
Disobedient fathers do not know their children - Ezek. 34:4-6
It will be like pouring water in the streets
The Lord does not want children to live in shame - Ps. 127:3-5
Let your children be your own children to enjoy
These are children who are secure and loved - Prov. 14:26
Do not let them become strangers you will not know
Children of an immoral man may never know their father - Prov. 7:5

b. The blessings of having a faithful wife - 5:18-20

Let your children be a blessing to you
Rejoice with the wife of your youth
Let your wife be like a loving deer and a graceful doe
This is one way a loving husband describes his wife - SS 4:1-7
Let her breasts satisfy you at all times
Be able to enjoy her love throughout your lives
This has been the plan of the Lord from the beginning - Gen. 2:24-25
Do not choose love (lust) that lasts only for a night
Lust of the flesh has its source in the world - I John 2:16
That is the result when you embrace an immoral woman
Such women have destroyed many strong men - Prov. 7:20

c. The Lord acts on the choices we make - 5:21-23

The Lord sees the way that we go
The Lord watches all of the paths that we take
He own sins trap the wicked man
The wicked will be caught in the cords of his sin
People who sow to the flesh reap judgment - Gal. 6:7-8
The wicked will die for lack of instruction
The wicked will go astray through his folly
He will fall into the pit he has created for himself - Prov. 28:10

L. The encouragement to avoid surety - 6:1-5

Solomon warned his son not to become surety for a neighbor
Solomon warned his son not to give a pledge for a stranger
Surety means to become responsible for another's debt - Prov. 11:15
Solomon said his son would be snared by his words
Solomon said he had made a promise with his mouth
Solomon said to do whatever he could to get free
Solomon said his son would put himself in the hand of a neighbor
Solomon said to humble himself and plead with his neighbor
Solomon said not even to wait until the next day
Solomon told his son not even to take a nap first
Solomon said to deliver himself like a deer running from a hunter
Solomon said to deliver himself like a bird from a hunter

M. The encouragement to avoid laziness - 6:6-19

1. Solomon encouraged his son to learn from the ant - 6:6-11

a. The lessons that can be learned from the ant - 6:6-8

Go to the ant you sluggard (a lazy person)
Consider the way of an ant and be wise
The ants have no captain, overseer or ruler over them
The ant gathers her food in the summer
Ants prepare for the winter during the summer - Prov. 30:25
The ant gathers her food during the time of harvest
The lazy person will have nothing in the time of harvest - Prov. 20:4

b. The consequences when one does not learn from the ant - 6:9-11

How long will you lay down you lazy person?
A sluggard or slothful person is a lazy person - Prov. 24:30-35
When will you get up from your sleep you lazy person?
The lazy person think only about the rest he wants today
The lazy person thinks that he is smarter than others - Prov. 26:13-16
The lazy person continually folds his hands to rest
The lazy person thinks everything is difficult - Prov. 15:19
The lazy person will find that poverty comes like an armed man

2. Solomon said a wicked man would have judgment come suddenly - 6:12-15

A worthless person is a wicked man
Worthless (Belial) is also used for Satan - II Cor. 6:15
A worthless person walks with a perverse mouth
A worthless person winks with his eyes
A worthless person signals with his feet
A worthless person points with his fingers
A worthless person has perversity in his heart
A worthless person is continually planning evil
A worthless person sows discord
This person likes to stir up conflict between people - Prov. 10:12
A worthless person will have calamity come suddenly
A worthless person will be broken without remedy

3. Solomon spoke of seven things the Lord hates - 6:16-19

a. Solomon said these are an abomination to the Lord - 6:16

These are six things that the Lord hates
Yes seven things are an abomination to Him
God uses six followed by seven to give attention to these things

b. These seven things are all personal choices - 6:17-19

The Lord hates a proud look
To think they are better than others - Prov. 30:13
The Lord hates a lying tongue
To speak words that are lies - Prov. 12:22
The Lord hates hands that shed innocent blood
To kill those who are innocent - Prov. 1:11
The Lord hates a heart that devises wicked plans
Deceit is in the heart of those who imagine evil - Prov. 12:20
The Lord hates feet that are swift in running to evil
Feet that run to do evil - Prov. 1:16; 6:14; 16:27
The Lord hates a false witness who speaks lies
A false witness speaks lies - Prov. 14:5; Prov. 19:4, 9
The Lord hates one who sows discord among brethren
The one who does this is called worthless or wicked - Prov. 6:14

N. The encouragement to avoid adultery - 6:20-35

1. The description of an immoral woman - 6:20-29

a. The reason why parents should instruct their son - 6:20-23

A son is encouraged to keep the commands of his father
A son is encouraged not to forsake the law of his mother
A son is to have those instructions in his heart
A wise son follows those instructions
Those commands will lead you the right way
Those commands will keep you when you sleep
Those commands are like a lamp and a light
The Word of God is a lamp and a light - Ps. 119:105
Correction through instruction leads to life
Those who receive instruction will be honored - Prov. 13:18

b. The way an immoral woman attracts men - 6:24-26

Parents instruct a son to keep him from an immoral woman
A seductress flatters with her tongue
Flattering speech is often from a double heart - Ps. 12:2
A seductress uses her beauty to attract
Beauty is vain and does not last - Prov. 31:30
A seductress tries to capture with her eyelids
An immoral woman reduces a man to a crust of bread
An immoral woman can destroy the life of that man
This is the high cost of immorality - Prov. 7:21-23

c. The effect on the man who yields to that attraction - 6:27-29

Immorality is like taking fire into a man's bosom
A man will get burned by that action
Immorality is like walking on hot coals
A man will be burned or scorched by that action
This is the consequence for a man who goes into his neighbor's wife
The immoral woman destroys many men - Prov. 2:16-19
The man who touches her will not be innocent
One who touches to stir up sexual desires - Ruth 2:9; I Cor. 7:1

2. The description of the consequences of adultery - 6:30-35

a. The consequences for a man who is a thief - 6:30-31

People do not despise a hungry thief
Most will have mercy on the poor - Prov. 14:21
They realize he steals because he is starving
The people in Egypt became very hungry - Gen. 41:55
However he must still pay the consequences
People reap what they sow - Gal. 6:7-8
He must restore seven times as much when caught
This is the most severe penalty for stealing - Ex. 22:1-3
He may have to give up everything he has to pay
He may have to sell everything in his house - Prov. 6:31

b. The consequences within for a man who commits adultery - 6:32-33

A man who commits adultery lacks understanding
He is void (totally lacking) of understanding - Prov. 7:7
He is destroying his own soul
He is deceived by the foolish woman - Prov. 9:13-18
He must turn to godly wisdom to live - Prov. 9:4-5
He will get wounds and dishonor
Shame will be the consequence for fools - Prov. 3:35
Poverty and shame will come to him who rejects instruction - Prov. 13:18
His reproach will not be blotted out
With dishonor comes reproach (shame) - Prov. 18:3
Christ took our reproach on the cross - Ps. 22:6-8

c. The consequences when vengeance is taken - 6:34-35

Jealousy will enrage the husband
Who can stand before jealousy - Prov. 27:4
The husband will not spare in the day of vengeance
The penalty under the law was stoning of both - Deut. 22:22
The husband will not accept any payment for this sin
A person cannot bear a wounded spirit - Prov. 18:14
The husband will not be appeased even if given many gifts
Even his riches will not be accepted - Prov. 13:18

O. The encouragement to avoid the immoral woman - 7:1-27

1. The trap of immorality 7:1-9

a. The encouragement to keep a pure heart - 7:1-3

Solomon wanted his son to obey his words
Solomon wanted his son to store up his commands in his heart
Solomon wanted his son to keep his commands and live
Solomon wanted his teaching to be like an apple in his son's eye
The apple of the eye is the center of the eye - Ps. 17:8
Solomon wanted those commands to guide his son's actions
Solomon wanted those commands to take root in his son's heart
They were to be in the middle of his heart - Prov. 4:21-23

b. The pure heart protects from an immoral woman - 7:4-5

Solomon wanted his son to treat wisdom like a dear sister
Solomon wanted understanding to be like a close relative
Understanding can change the simple (naive or foolish) - Prov. 9:4-6
Solomon knew the Word could keep his son from the immoral woman
Those who do not obey the Word of God reap the consequences - Prov. 5:7-13
Solomon did not want his son deceived by the words of an immoral woman
A woman who flattered (spoke words from a divided heart) - Prov. 2:16

c. The lure of immediate pleasure - 7:6-9

Solomon was sitting at the window of his house
Solomon was looking through the lattice (window covering)
Solomon saw a young man who was simple (naive or foolish)
Solomon saw a young man lacking in understanding
A person who commits adultery lacks understanding - Prov. 6:32
Solomon saw the young man walking the street near an immoral woman
A person sins by choosing to walk close to temptation - Prov. 9:14-17
Solomon saw the young man take the path to her house
A person sins when his desires draw him away and entice him - Jam. 1:14
Solomon said this happened in the evening
A person with sinful desires likes the darkness - John 3:19-20
Solomon said it was already getting dark

2. The promise of immediate pleasure - 7:10-20

a. An immoral woman seeks foolish men - 7:10-12

A woman met the young man as he walked on the path
The woman had the clothes of an immoral woman
The woman also had a crafty heart
The woman was loud and rebellious
The woman would not stay at home
The woman was outside at times
The woman was in the open square at times
The woman would wait on every corner
She was looking for a victim - Prov. 23:26-28

b. An immoral woman offers immediate pleasure - 7:13-18

The woman caught the young man and kissed him
The woman spoke to him with a shameless face
An immoral woman has smooth words but a bitter heart - Prov. 5:3-4
The woman said that she had peace offerings
The offerer received most of the meat to eat - Lev. 7:15-17
The woman said she had paid her vows
The woman said she came out to meet him and found him
The woman said she had really been seeking him
The woman said she had spread her bed with tapestry
The woman said the colored coverings were Egyptian linen
The woman said she had perfumed her bed with spices
The woman offered sex but not love (it was only for that night)
The woman invited him to spend the night with her
She actually wanted to destroy his life - Prov. 6:26
The woman said they could delight themselves with love (sex)
One who commits adultery lacks understanding - Prov. 6:32

c. An immoral woman says there are no consequences - 7:19-20

The woman said that her husband was not at home
The woman said her husband had gone on a long journey
The woman said he had taken a bag of money with him
The woman said he would come home on the appointed day

3. The consequences of seeking immediate pleasure - 7:21-27

a. A young man does not know it will cost his life - 7:21-23

The immoral woman used enticing speech to get him to yield
Her speech is smooth but her heart is bitter - Prov. 5:3
The immoral woman used flattering speech to seduce him
This verse speaks of using words to destroy a person - Ps. 62:4
The young man went after her like an ox to the slaughter
It was like a sword used to slaughter - Ezek. 21;10, 15, 28
The young man was like a fool going to the stocks
Stocks were what the governor used to punish Jeremiah - Jer. 20:1-2
It was like an arrow struck his liver
A dart is a sharp arrow used to destroy - Prov. 25:18
He was like a bird hurrying to the snare
Snares are used by those who are evil - Prov. 22:5
He did not know that it would cost him his life
The goal of the immoral woman is to destroy - Prov. 6:26

b. A young man needs to hear the immediate consequences - 7:24-25

Solomon urged his children to listen to him
He who listens to counsel is wise - 12:15
Solomon urged them to pay attention to his words
Solomon urged them not to let their heart turn to her ways
The heart of one who commits adultery lacks understanding - 6:32-33
Solomon urged them not to stray into her paths
The way of the wicked leads them astray - Prov. 12:26

c. A young man needs to hear the eternal consequences - 7:26-27

Solomon said she had cast down many wounded
The mouth of the immoral woman is a deep pit - Prov. 22:14
Solomon said all those slain by her were strong men
Samson was destroyed by immoral women - Jud. 16:1, 16:19-21
Solomon said her house is the way to hell (Sheol)
Fools will be destroyed by evil people - Prov. 1:31-32
Solomon said they would descend to the chambers of death
Many men are deceived by the immoral woman - Prov. 2:16-19

P. The encouragement to seek wisdom instead of folly - 8:1-9:18

1. The description of wisdom - 8:1-21

a. The value of gaining godly wisdom - 8:1-11

1) Wisdom is freely available to those who seek it - 8:1-3

**Wisdom cries out
Wisdom lifts up her voice
Wisdom takes her stand on the heights
Wisdom is available where the paths meet
Wisdom is available at the gates entering the city
Wisdom is available at the entrance of the doors
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Prov. 9:10**

2) Wisdom will teach the things that are right - 8:4-8

**Wisdom calls to the men
Wisdom calls to the sons of men
Wisdom is to help naive ones understand prudence
Wisdom wanted to help fools gain an understanding heart
Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has understanding - Prov. 15:14
Solomon said he spoke excellent things
Solomon said he opened his lips to speak right things
Solomon said that he would speak the truth
Solomon said wickedness was an abomination to his lips
Solomon said the words of his mouth were righteousness
Solomon said he did not speak crookedness or perverted words**

3) Wisdom is better than riches - 8:9-11

**Solomon said his words were plain to those who understood
Solomon said his words were right to those who wanted knowledge
Solomon said good instruction is better than silver
Solomon said knowledge is better than choice gold
Solomon said wisdom is better than rubies
Solomon said nothing could be compared to wisdom
The Lord is the source of wisdom - Prov. 2:6**

b. The fruit of godly wisdom - 8:12-21

1) Wisdom provides wise counsel - 8:12-14

Wisdom and prudence go together

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Prov. 9:10

Knowledge and discretion also go together

The fear of the Lord is to hate evil

The Lord hates pride, arrogance and the evil way

The Lord gives seven ways these things are shown - Prov. 6:16-19

The Lord hates the perverse mouth

The Lord provides counsel and sound wisdom

The Lord stores up sound wisdom for the upright - Prov. 2:7

The Lord gives understanding and has strength

The Lord gives wisdom and understanding - Prov. 2:6

2) Wisdom bears the fruit of lasting riches - 8:15-17

Godly wisdom will guide kings to reign effectively

Godly wisdom will help princes and nobles rule

Godly wisdom will help judges judge the right way

Godly wisdom loves those who love it

Godly wisdom will be found by those who seek it diligently

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom - Prov. 10:31

3) Wisdom is better than worldly riches - 8:18-21

Godly wisdom will lead to riches and honor

This will be enduring riches and righteousness

God will give all His followers the eternal riches - Eph. 2:7

The fruit of wisdom is better than fine gold

The fruit of wisdom is better than the choice silver

The fruit of godly wisdom is described - Jam. 3:17

Wisdom walks in the way of righteousness

We are to walk in wisdom toward the non-Christian - Col. 4:5-6

Wisdom follows the paths of justice

Daniel demonstrated true wisdom to the king - Dan. 1:20

Wisdom causes those who love it to inherit wealth

Wisdom causes their treasuries to be filled

2. The source of wisdom - 8:22-31

a. God had wisdom before the creation - 8:22-26

The Lord was filled with wisdom in the beginning
The Lord had this wisdom before He created anything
Christ used this wisdom to create all things - John 1:1-3
The Lord established wisdom from everlasting
The Lord did this before there was ever an earth
The Lord showed His wisdom before the depths were formed
The Lord showed His wisdom when there were no fountains
The Lord showed His wisdom before the mountains were settled
The Lord showed His wisdom before the hills were brought forth
The Lord showed His wisdom before He formed the earth
The Lord showed His wisdom before there was any dust

b. God used that wisdom when He made the waters - 8:27-29

God used His wisdom when He prepared the heavens
Christ created all things by the Word of His mouth - Gen. 1:3-25
God used His wisdom when He drew the earth a circle
God sits above the circle of the earth - Is. 40:21-22
This creates a boundary for light and darkness - Job 26:7-10
God used His wisdom when He established the clouds
God used His wisdom when He strengthened the fountains of the deep
God used His wisdom when He set the boundaries of the oceans
The world will not be destroyed by another worldwide flood - Gen. 9:11-15
God used His wisdom so waters would not go beyond those boundaries
The Lord set a boundary that the waters will not pass over - Ps. 104:7-9
God used His wisdom when He marked out the foundations of the earth

c. God showed His delight with the creation - 8:30-31

Wisdom was with God like a master craftsman
Wisdom was the daily delight of God
Wisdom was rejoicing before Him
Wisdom was with God as He rejoiced over His inhabited world
God set a boundary where the waves must stop - Job 38:8-11
Wisdom was with God as He delighted in the sons of men

3. The blessings of wisdom - 8:32-9:12

1) God offers His wisdom freely - 8:32-9:4a

a) People are encouraged to seek wisdom - 8:32-34

Solomon encouraged his children to listen to him
Solomon said they would be blessed if they kept his ways
Solomon told them to hear his instruction and be wise
Solomon told them not to ignore or reject his wisdom
Solomon said they would be blessed if they listened to him
Solomon said to listen daily at his gates
Solomon said to wait at the posts of his doors

b) People who find godly wisdom find life - 8:35-36

Solomon said those who gained wisdom would find life
Christ came to give abundant life - John 10:11
Solomon said they would obtain favor from the Lord
Solomon said those who rejected wisdom would hurt their soul
Solomon said those who hated wisdom would seek death
Getting treasure by lying is a fantasy of those seeking death - Prov. 21:6

c) Wisdom is freely offered to all - 9:1-4a

Wisdom has built her house
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Prov. 9:10
Wisdom has hewn out her seven pillars
The seven pillars of wisdom from above are listed in **James 3:17**:
Pure (purity), peaceable, gentle, willing to yield (reasonableness),
full of mercy, good fruits (helpfulness), without partiality
(humbleness), without hypocrisy (genuine or sincere)
Wisdom has slaughtered her meat
Wisdom has mixed her wine
Wisdom has furnished her table
The Lord invites all to His banquet - Luke 14:21-23
Wisdom has sent out her maidens
Wisdom cries out from the highest place of the city
Wisdom invites the simple to turn in here

2) God gives a free invitation to all to enjoy His wisdom - 9:4-12

a) People are encouraged to forsake foolishness and live - 9:4-6

Wisdom invites the simple to turn in here
The Word of the Lord makes the simple person wise - Ps. 19:7
Wisdom wants to speak to those lacking understanding
Fools will die if they continue to lack understanding - Prov. 10:21
Wisdom says to come and eat of its bread
Wisdom says to come and drink the wine it has mixed
Wisdom says to forsake foolishness and live
One who confesses and forsakes foolishness will receive mercy - Prov. 28:13
Wisdom says to go in the way of understanding

b) People are encouraged to receive and give wisdom - 9:7-9

He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself
A scoffer or fool is one who mocks at sin - Prov. 14:9
He who rebukes a wicked man only harms himself
Violence covers the mouth of the wicked - Prov. 10:11
If you rebuke a scoffer, he may hate you
A scoffer is filled with pride and wrath - Prov. 21:24
If you rebuke a wise man, he will love you
Instruction given to a wise man makes him wiser
The wise in heart have a learner's attitude - Prov. 10:8; 16:21
Teach a just man and he will increase his learning
The just (righteous) man helps others learn - Prov. 10:20-21

c) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - 9:10-12

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom
The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom - Prov. 15:33
Knowledge of the Holy One is understanding
Paul desired this full understanding - Phil. 3:10
This will cause your days to be multiplied
This will add years to your life
If you are wise, you are wise for yourself
If you scoff, you alone will bear it
Judgments are prepared for scoffers - Prov. 19:29

4. The warning about the foolish woman - 9:13-18

a. The foolish woman is loud and stubborn - 9:13-14

A foolish woman is loud (boisterous)

An immoral woman is loud and rebellious - Prov. 7:11

A foolish woman is simple

The foolish woman destroys her own house - Prov. 14:1

A foolish woman knows nothing

The mouth of the immoral woman is smoother than oil - Prov. 5:3

The foolish woman sits at the doorway of her house

The immoral woman flatters with her words - Prov. 2:16; 7:5

The foolish woman may sit by the high places of the city

The immoral woman may lurk on every corner - Prov. 7:12

b. The foolish woman calls to those who pass by - 9:15-16

The foolish woman calls to those who pass by

The simple get as close as possible to temptation - Prov. 7:7-8

The foolish woman calls to those who are making their paths straight

Solomon warned his son not even to look at temptation - Prov. 4:25

The simple are open to her loud behavior

The simple are those who lack understanding - Prov. 7:7-8

The foolish woman invites the simple to come into her

The simple do not think about the consequences - Prov. 22:3

The foolish woman seeks those who lack understanding

The simple need people to help them gain understanding - Prov. 8:5

The foolish woman speaks to such men

Solomon told his son not to pass by the house of the wicked - Prov. 4:15

c. The foolish woman offers happiness but brings judgment - 9:17-18

The foolish woman says stolen water is sweet

The foolish woman says bread eaten in secret is pleasant

However the consequences are not pleasant - Prov. 20:17

The foolish woman has helped many to their deaths

Her house leads down to death - Prov. 2:18

The guests of the foolish woman are in the depths of hell

Many strong men have been destroyed by her - Prov. 7:25-27

III. Proverbs comparing the fear of God and the folly of sin - 10:1-24:34

A. Proverbs contrasting righteousness and wickedness - 10:1-15:33

1. The blessings to those who are wise - 10:1-33

a. The blessing of a righteous son to his family - 10:1-7

1) The blessing of being a righteous son - 10:1-3

Proverbs given by Solomon show many contrasts

A wise son makes a glad father

A wise son fills the heart with gladness - Prov. 27:11

A foolish son is the grief of his mother

A foolish man despises his mother - Prov. 15:20

The treasures of wickedness have no value

Righteousness delivers a person from death

In the way of righteousness is life - Prov. 12:28

The Lord will not allow the righteous to famish

The Lord casts away the desire of the wicked

The fear of the wicked will come upon him - Prov. 10:24

2) The blessing of one who is diligent - 10:4-5

The hand of the slack causes one to become poor

The hand of the diligent blesses others

The plans of the diligent lead to plenty - Prov. 21:5

The son who prepares in summer is a wise son

This wisdom is shown by the ants - Prov. 6:8

The son who sleeps in harvest causes shame

3) The memory of one who is righteous - 10:6-7

Blessings are on the head of the righteous

The lips of the righteous feed many - Prov. 10:21

Violence covers the mouth of the wicked

The memory of the righteous is blessed

His children are blessed after him - Prov. 20:7

The name of the wicked will rot away

b. The blessing of a son who walks wisely - 10:8-17

1) The blessing of a son who walks with integrity - 10:-8-9

The wise in heart will receive commandments
The one who listens to counsel is wise - Prov.12:15
A prating (foolish speaking) fool will fall
The one who walks in integrity walks securely
Those who walk godly give others an example to follow - Prov. 19:1
He who perverts his ways will be exposed

2) The blessing of one who speaks righteously - 10:10-11

The one who winks with his eye causes trouble
One who winks has evil in his heart - Prov. 6:13-14
A prating (foolish speaking) fool will fall
The mouth of the righteous is a well of life
The righteous person speaks words that are life giving - Prov. 16:22
Violence covers the mouth of the wicked

3) The blessing of one who has understanding - 10:12-14

Hatred stirs up strife
Love covers all sins
Love covers a multitude of sins - I Pet. 4:8
Wisdom is on the lips of one who has understanding
Wisdom is in the heart of one who has understanding - Prov. 14:33
A rod is for the back of one who lacks understanding
Wise people store up knowledge
The mouth of the foolish is near destruction

4) The blessing of one who receives correction - 11:15-17

The rich man's wealth is his strong city
The destruction of the poor is their poverty
The labor of the righteous leads to life
The wages of the wicked lead to sin
The one who obeys instruction is in the way of life
The one who refuses instruction goes astray

c. The blessing of the righteous gives life - 10:18-25

1) The unrighteous experience the effects of sin - 10:18-21

A person with hatred will also have lying lips

Those who cover hatred by deceit

Those who cover hatred by deceit will be revealed - Prov. 26:26

A person who spreads slander is a fool

Sin is not lacking when one talks continually

An angry man stirs up strife - Prov. 29:22

The one who restrains his lips and listens is wise

One who guards his mouth preserves his life - Prov. 13:3

The tongue of the righteous is choice silver

The mouth of the righteous is a well of life - Prov. 10:11

The heart of the wicked is worth little

The mouth of the wicked pours forth evil - Prov. 15:28

The lips of the righteous feed many

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life - Prov. 11:30

Fools die because they lack wisdom

2) The righteous are blessed by the Lord - 10:22

The blessing of the Lord makes one rich

The Lord blesses the house of the just - Prov. 3:33

The Lord adds no sorrow with that blessing

We do not sorrow as those who have no hope - I Thess. 4:13

3) The righteous can look forward to eternal life - 10:23-25

To do evil is like sport to a fool

A man of understanding has wisdom

A man who is slow to wrath has great wisdom - Prov. 14:29

The fear of a wicked person will have it come upon him

The desire of the righteous will be granted

The desire of the righteous is only good - Prov. 11:23

The wicked are like the whirlwind that comes and is gone

The wicked are overthrown and are no more - Prov. 12:7

The righteous have an everlasting foundation

The root of the righteous cannot be moved - Prov. 12:3

d. The hope of the righteous will be gladness - 10:26-32

1) the problems that a lazy man causes - 10:26

A lazy man is like vinegar to the teeth
A lazy man is like smoke to the eyes
A lazy man does not make a good messenger
The lazy man will not deliver the message - Prov. 26:6

2) the Lord blesses those who are faithful - 10:27-29

The fear of the Lord prolongs life
The Lord gives long life to those who fear Him - Prov. 9:11
The years of the wicked will be shortened
Destruction will come to those who do iniquity - Prov. 21:15
The hope of the righteous is gladness
The desire of the righteous will come upon him - Prov. 10:24
The expectation of the wicked will perish
The expectation of the wicked is wrath - Prov. 11:23
The way of the Lord is strength for the upright
Righteousness guards the way of the blameless - Prov. 13:6
Destruction will come to the workers of iniquity
The wicked will be cut off from the earth - Prov. 2:22

3) The Lord blesses the ministry of the righteous - 10:30-32

The righteous will never be removed
The righteous shall not be moved - Prov. 12:3
The wicked will not inhabit the earth
The wicked will be cut off from the earth - Prov. 2:22
The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom
Wisdom comes from one with understanding - Prov. 10:13
The tongue of the perverse will be cut out
The result for those who speak perverse things - Prov. 2:12
The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable
The prayer of the upright delights the Lord - Prov. 15:8
The mouth of the wicked speaks what is perverse
Perversity (frowardness) begins in the heart - Prov. 23:33
A perverse person stirs up conflict among others - Prov. 6:14

2. The blessings to those who are guided by the Lord - 11:1-31

a. The Lord will bless the upright - 11:1-8

1) The humble receive wisdom from the Lord - 11:1-2

Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord
A just weight is the delight of the Lord
Honest weights and scales are the Lord's - Prov. 16:11
When pride comes, it brings with it shame
Pride goes before destruction - Prov. 16:18
With the humble person there is wisdom
The Lord looks for those who walk in humility - Mi. 6:8

2) The righteous are guided by the Lord - 11:3-6

The integrity of the upright will guide them
The highway of the upright is to depart from sin - Prov. 16:17
The perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them
The way of the unfaithful is hard - Prov. 13:15
Riches do not profit in the day of wrath
This is the day of judgment - Luke 12:20-21
Righteousness delivers from death
The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way
The prayer of the upright is a delight to the Lord - Prov. 15:8
The wicked will fall by his own wickedness
The righteousness of the upright will deliver them
The highway of the upright is to depart from evil - Prov. 16:17
The unfaithful will be caught by their own lust
The harlot increases unfaithfulness among men - Prov. 23:28

3) The righteous are delivered from trouble by the Lord - 11:7-8

When a wicked man dies, his expectation will perish
Ruin will come to the workers of iniquity - Prov. 10:29
The hope of the unjust also perishes
The righteous is delivered from trouble
The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous - Prov. 21:18
That trouble comes to the wicked instead

b. The Lord will guide the faithful - 11:9-15

1) The blessing of the upright to those around him - 11:9-11

The hypocrite destroys his neighbor with his mouth

Violence covers the mouth of the wicked (destroys others) - Prov. 10:6

A fool's mouth is his destruction (destroys self) - Prov. 18:7

Through knowledge the righteous will be delivered

Knowledge is easy to him who understands - Prov. 14:6

When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices

When the righteous rejoice there is great glory - Prov. 28:12

When the wicked perish, there is jubilation

The candle (life) of the wicked shall be put out - Prov. 24:20

By the blessing of the upright, the city is exalted

The highway of the upright is to depart from evil - Prov. 16:17

A city is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked

The fruit of the wicked is sin - Prov. 10:16

2) The blessing of one with a faithful spirit - 11:12-13

One who lacks wisdom despises his neighbor

Wise people store up and share wisdom - Prov. 10:14

A man of understanding holds his peace

A man of understanding spares his words - Prov. 17:27

A talebearer reveals secrets

Avoid a talebearer because he reveals secrets - Prov. 20:19

A faithful spirit conceals a matter

One shows love when he conceals a transgression - Prov. 17:9

3) The blessing of a multitude of counselors - 11:14-15

When there is no counsel, the people fall

Every purpose is established by counsel - Prov. 20:18

In a multitude of counselors there is safety

A wise man listens and learns from others - Prov. 1:5

He who is surety for a stranger will suffer

One lacking understanding will become surety - Prov. 17:18

One who hates being surety is secure

We should warn others to avoid becoming surety - Prov. 22:26

c. The Lord will delight in the blameless - 11:16-23

1) The Lord rewards according of our works - 11:16-18

A gracious woman retains honor

A woman that fears the Lord will be praised - Prov. 31:30

Ruthless men will only retain riches

He that trusts in his riches shall fall - Prov. 11:28; Mk. 8:36-37

The merciful man does good for his own soul

He that follows after righteousness and mercy finds life - Prov. 21:21

The cruel man troubles his own flesh

The tender mercies of the wicked are cruel - Prov. 12:10

The wicked man does deceptive work

The lying tongue only lasts for a moment - Prov. 12:19

The one who sows righteousness has a sure reward

In contrast, he who sows iniquity will reap vanity - Prov. 22:8

2) The Lord will judge according to our works - 11:19-21

Righteousness leads to life

In the way of righteousness is life - Prov. 12:28

He who pursues evil pursues it to his own death

Evil pursues sinners - Prov. 13:21

Those of a perverse heart are an abomination to the Lord

He who has a deceitful heart finds no good - Prov. 17:20

The blameless in their ways are the delight of the Lord

They that deal truly are the delight of the Lord - Prov. 12:22

Though they join forces the wicked will not go unpunished

The posterity of the righteous will be delivered

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life - Prov. 11:30

3) The Lord knows the thoughts of our hearts - 11:22-23

Like a ring of gold in a pig's snout

So is a lovely woman who lacks discretion

The desire of the righteous is only for good

Whoever walks uprightly shall be saved - Prov. 28:18

The expectation of the wicked is wrath

When a wicked man dies, his expectation perishes - Prov. 11:7

d. The Lord will bless the generous - 11:24-31

1) The Lord blesses those who meet needs of others - 11:24-26

There is one who scatters and yet increases more
This is a way to honor the Lord - Prov. 3:10-11
There is one who withholds but it leads to poverty
Those who sow sparingly will reap sparingly - II Cor. 9:6
The generous person will be made rich
The blessing of the Lord makes one rich - Prov. 10:22
The one who ministers to others will see others minister to him
The people will curse the man who withholds grain
There will be blessing on the one who sells grain

2) The Lord blesses those who are righteous - 11:27-29

The one who earnestly seeks good finds favor
Those who seek the Lord early will find Him - Prov. 8:17
Trouble comes to the one who seeks evil
Evil pursues sinners - Prov. 13:21
The one who trusts in his riches will fall
Riches fly away like an eagle - Prov. 23:5
The righteous will flourish like foliage
The righteous will be like a tree by a river - Ps. 1:3
The one who troubles his house will inherit the wind
He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house - Prov. 15:27
The fool will be servant to the wise of heart
The way of a fool is right in his own eyes - Prov. 12:15

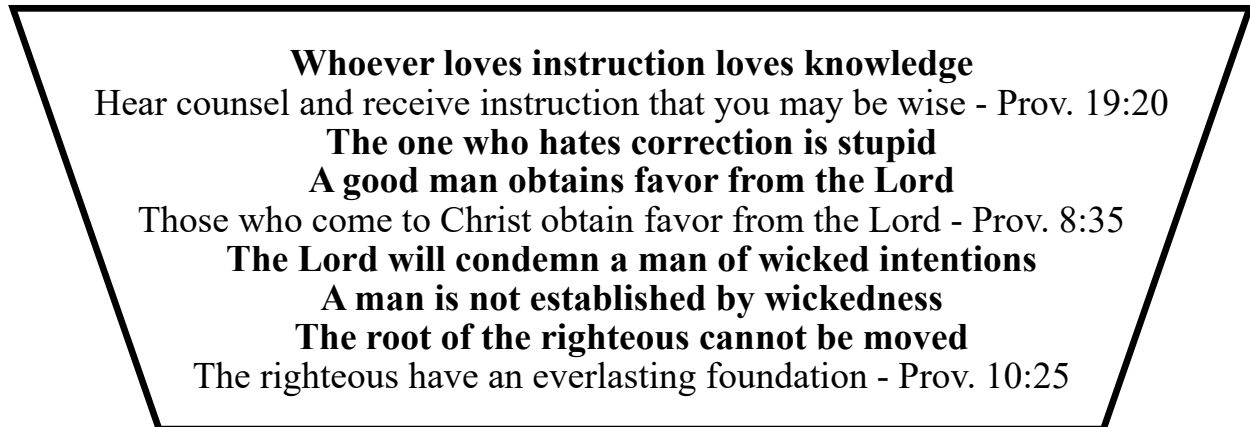
3) The Lord causes the righteous to be fruitful - 11:30-31

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life
A wholesome tongue is a tree of life - Prov. 15:4
The one who wins souls is wise
A true witness delivers souls - Prov. 14:25
The righteous may be rewarded on the earth
To the righteous good will be repaid - Prov. 13:21
The ungodly and the sinner will experience evil
The wicked are overthrown and are not - Prov. 12:7

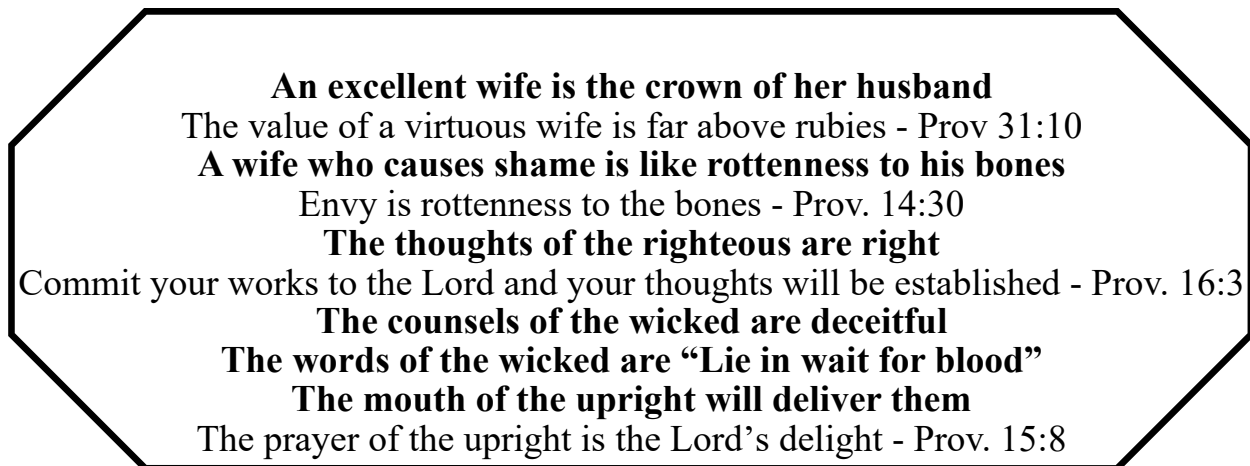
3. The blessings to those who seek the guidance of the Lord - 12:1-28

a. The Lord will bless those who love instruction - 12:1-9

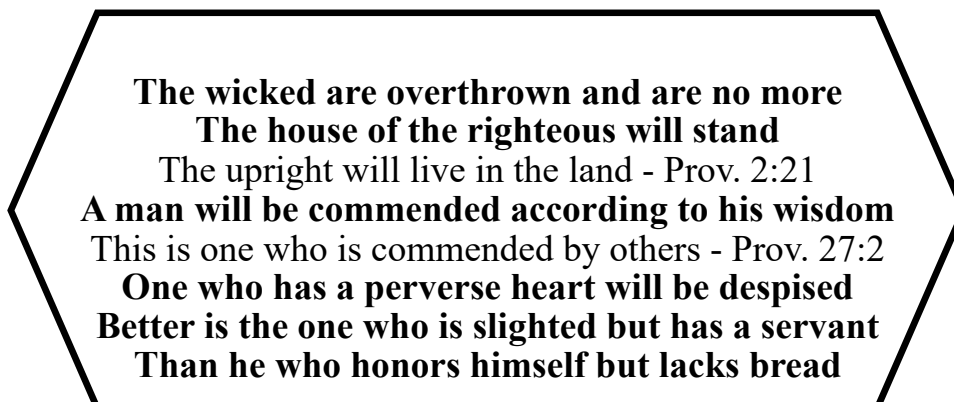
1) The Lord gives favor to those who follow Him - 12:1-3



2) The Lord guides the thoughts of the righteous - 12:4-6



3) The Lord will cause the house of the righteous to stand - 12:7-9



b. The Lord will bless those who speak wisely - 12:10-18

1) The Lord blesses those who show kindness - 12:10-11

A righteous man regards the life of his animal
The tender mercies of the wicked are cruel
The man who is cruel troubles his own flesh - Prov. 11:17
One who tills the land will be satisfied with bread
The one who tills his lands will have plenty of bread - Prov. 28:19
One who follows frivolity (vain things) is devoid of understanding

2) The Lord blesses the righteous with fruit - 12:12-14

The wicked covet the catch of evil men
The root of the righteous yields fruit
He that gives to the poor shall not lack - Prov. 28:27
The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips
The righteous will come through trouble
The righteous is delivered from trouble - Prov. 11:8
A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth
A word spoken in due season how good it is - Prov. 15:23
The recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him
The actions of a man's hands will return to him (good or evil) - Gal. 6:7-9

3) The Lord blesses the tongue of the wise - 12:15-18

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes
He who heeds counsel is wise
Counsel will over time develop wisdom - Prov. 19:20
A fool's wrath is known at once
What is in the heart of fools is made known - Prov. 14:33
A prudent man covers shame
Love covers all sins - Prov. 10:12
He who speaks truth declares righteousness
A true witness delivers souls (protects the innocent) - Prov. 14:25
A false witness speaks deceit
One speaks like the piercings of a sword
The tongue of the wise promotes health
Pleasant words are sweet to the soul and health to the bones - Prov. 15:24

c. The Lord will bless those who speak truth - 12:19-28

1) The Lord blesses those who speak truth - 12:19-22

The truthful lip shall be established forever
A lying tongue is but for a moment
He that speaks lies shall perish - Prov. 19:9
Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil
Counselors of peace have joy
No grave trouble will overtake the righteous
Those who seek godly wisdom will dwell safely - Prov. 1:33
The wicked will be filled with evil
Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord
Those who deal truthfully are His delight
He that speaks truth shows forth righteousness - Prov. 12:17

2) The Lord blesses those who walk wisely - 12:23-25

A prudent man conceals knowledge
His actions are guided by that knowledge - Prov. 13:16
The heart of fools proclaims foolishness
The hand of the diligent will rule
The lazy man will be put to forced labor
Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression
By sorrow of heart the spirit is broken - Prov. 15:13
A good word makes the heart of man glad
He that is of a merry heart has a continual feast - Prov. 15:15

3) The Lord says the path of the righteous leads to life - 12:26-28

The righteous should choose his friends carefully
He is able to guide those who seek guidance - Prov. 10:21
The way of the wicked leads them astray
The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting
Diligence is man's precious possession
The soul of the diligent shall be made rich - Prov. 13:4
In the way of righteousness is life
Righteousness delivers from death - Prov. 11:4
In its pathway there is no death

4. The blessings to those with right attitudes - 13:1-25

a. The Lord will bless those who are careful how they speak - 13:1-9

1) Those who are careful how they speak are blessed - 13:1-3

A wise son listens to the instruction of his father

In contrast, the fool despises his father's instruction - Prov. 15:5

A scoffer (the proud who mock at sin) does not listen to rebuke

A man will eat well by the fruit of his mouth

A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth - Prov. 12:14

The soul of the unfaithful leads to violence

The one who guards his lips preserves his life

One who guards his mouth keeps his soul from troubles - Prov. 21:23

The one who opens wide his lips shall have destruction

2) Righteousness guards those who follow it - 13:4-6

The soul of the lazy man desires and has nothing

The lazy man refuses to work - Prov. 21:25

The soul of the diligent shall be made rich

A righteous man hates lying

Those who love the law of the Lord hate lying - Ps. 119:163

A wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame

Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless

The integrity of the upright will guide them - Prov. 11:3

Wickedness overthrows the sinner

3) Riches and poverty may affect the lives of people - 13:7-9

There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing

There is one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches

A godly man may be poor but make many rich - II Cor. 6:10

The ransom of a man's life is his riches

The poor man does not hear rebuke

A wise man is quick to learn from a rebuke - Prov. 17:10

The light of the righteous rejoices

The path of the just is like the shining sun - Prov. 4:18

The lamp of the wicked will be put out

b. The Lord will bless those with a humble attitude - 13:10-17

1) Pride or dishonesty cause judgment - 13:10-11

By pride comes nothing but strife

One who loves strife loves transgression (sin) - Prov. 17:9

With the well-advised is wisdom

With the humble there is wisdom - Prov. 11:2

Wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished

One who gets unjust gain gathers it for the poor - Prov. 28:8

He who gathers by labor will increase

A man will be rewarded for his hard work - Prov. 12:14

2) Those who fear the Lord are blessed - 13:12-14

Hope deferred makes the heart sick

When the desire comes, it is a tree of life

The desire of the righteous will be granted - Prov. 10:24

He who despises the word will be destroyed

Fools despise wisdom and instruction - Prov. 1:7

He who fears the commandment will be rewarded

Good is repaid to the righteous - Prov. 13:21

The law of the wise is a fountain of life

The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life - Prov. 14:27

It turns one away from the snares of death

Learning the way of an angry man will be a snare to the soul - Prov. 22:24-25

3) Those who are faithful bring blessing - 13:15-17

Good understanding gains favor

Mercy and truth will cause one to find favor - Prov. 3:3-4

The way of the unfaithful is hard

Every prudent man acts with knowledge

Every prudent (wise) man is crowned with knowledge - Prov. 14:18

A fool lays open his folly

A wicked messenger falls into trouble

The mouth of fools pours out foolishness - Prov. 15:2

A faithful ambassador brings health

A faithful messenger brings good news - Prov. 25:13

c. The Lord will bless the righteous with good - 13:18-25

1) Wise men learn through correction - 13:18-20

Poverty and shame will come to one who rejects correction

A fool despises his father's instruction - Prov. 15:5

The one who listens to a rebuke will be rewarded

One who listens to rebuke will be honored - Prov. 15:32

A desire accomplished is sweet to the soul

It is an abomination to fools to depart from evil

One who walks with wise men will be wise

Those who hear counsel and receive instruction become wise - Prov. 19:20

A companion of fools will be destroyed

He that is a companion of fools shames his father - Prov. 28:7

2) Good men have a concern for their children - 13:21-22

Evil pursues sinners

Many sorrows will be to the wicked - Ps. 32:10

Good will be repaid to the righteous

He who fears the commandment will be rewarded - Prov. 13:13

A good man leaves an inheritance to his grandchildren

The upright will have good things in possession - Prov. 28:10

The wealth of a sinner is stored up for the righteous

One who is evil gathers for him who will pity the poor - Prov. 28:8

3) Righteous men discipline with love - 13:23-25

Much food is in the fallow ground of the poor

For lack of justice there is waste

The one who spares the rod hates his son

Discipline your son while there is hope - Prov. 19:18

The one who loves him disciplines him promptly

The Lord gives the example by His discipline - Heb. 12:6

The father corrects the son in whom he delights - Prov. 3:12

The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul

He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread - Prov. 12:11

The stomach of the wicked shall be in want

The wicked will see what they have destroyed - Prov. 10:3

5. The blessings to those who trust the Lord - 14:1-35

a. The blessings to those who practice wisdom and faithfulness - 14:1-9

1) The Lord will bless the wise and expose the foolish - 14:1-3

The wise woman builds her house
Wisdom has built her house - Prov. 9:1-6
The foolish pulls it down with her hands
One who walks in uprightness fears the Lord
David walked in uprightness - I Ki. 9:4
He who is perverse in his ways despises Him
In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride
The lips of the wise will preserve them
The mouth of the upright will deliver them - Prov. 12:6

2) The Lord blesses the wise - 14:4-5

Where no oxen are, the trough is clean
Much increase comes by the strength of the ox
We honor the Lord with the firstfruits of our increase - Prov. 3:9
A faithful witness does not lie
Faithful men are not easy to find - Prov. 20:6
A false witness will speak lies

3) The Lord blesses the upright - 14:6-9

A scoffer seeks wisdom and does not find it
Knowledge is easy to him who understands
The knowledge of the holy is understanding - Prov. 9:10
A person should go from the presence of a foolish man
You will not perceive in him the lips of knowledge
The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way
A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself - Prov. 22:3
The folly of fools is deceit
Fools mock at sin
An ungodly sinner scorns judgment - Prov. 19:26
Among the upright there is favor
By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted - Prov. 12:6

b. The Lord will bless those who know where they are going - 14:10-18

1) No man knows the heart of others - 14:10-11

The heart knows its own bitterness
A stranger cannot share the heart's joy
Man looks on the outward appearance - I Sam. 16:7
The house of the wicked will be overthrown
The tent of the righteous will flourish
By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted - Prov. 11:11

2) The backslider in heart depends on himself - 14:12-14

There is a way that seems right to a man
There is a way that seems right to a man - Prov. 16:25
Its end is the way of death
The wide way leads to destruction - Matt. 7:13
Even in laughter the heart may be in sorrow
No one knows what is in the spirit of man but himself - I Cor. 2:11
The end of mirth may be grief
The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways
Everyone has gone back - There is none that doeth good - Ps. 53:3
A good man will be satisfied from above
A good man obtains favor from the Lord - Prov. 12:2

3) The wise man thinks about consequences -14:15-18

The simple believes every word
Wisdom invites the simple to turn to her - Prov. 9:4
The prudent considers well his steps
The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way - Prov. 14:8
A wise man fears and departs from evil
A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself - Prov. 22:3
A fool rages and is self-confident
A quick-tempered man acts foolishly
A man of wicked intentions is hated
The simple inherit folly
The prudent are crowned with knowledge
Every prudent man acts with knowledge - Prov. 13:16

c. The Lord will bless those who fear Him - 14:19-27

1) The Lord shows mercy to those who bless the poor - 14:19-21

The evil will bow before the good
God overthrows the evil for their wickedness - Prov. 21:12
The wicked will bow at the gates of the righteous
The poor is hated even by his own neighbor
He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker - Prov. 17:5
The rich has many friends
One who despises his neighbor sins
He who is devoid of wisdom despises his neighbor - Prov. 11:12
One who has mercy on the poor is happy
He who honors the Lord has mercy on the poor - Prov. 14:31

2) The Lord honors those who devise good - 14:22-24

Those who devise evil go astray
Mercy and truth belong to those who do good
By mercy and truth iniquity is purged - Prov. 16:6
In all labor there is profit
Idle chatter leads only to poverty
The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles - Prov. 26:22
The crown of the wise is their riches
The foolishness of fools is their folly

3) The Lord gives strong confidence to those who fear Him - 14:25-27

A true witness delivers souls
Righteousness delivers from death - Prov. 10:2
A deceitful witness speaks lies
In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence
The fear of the Lord leads to life - Prov. 19:23
His children will have a place of refuge
God is the rock of my refuge - Psalm 94:22
The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life
Understanding is a wellspring of life - Prov. 16:22
It turns one away from the snares of death
The fear of man brings a snare - Prov. 29:25

d. The Lord will bless those who honor Him - 14:28-35

1) The Lord gives great understanding - 14:28-30

In the multitude of people is a king's honor

In the multitude of counselors there is safety - Prov. 24:6

In the lack of people is the downfall of the prince

One who is slow to wrath has great understanding

He who is slow to anger allays (quiets) contention - Prov. 15:18

One who is impulsive exalts folly

A quick-tempered person acts foolishly - Prov. 14:17

A sound heart is life to the body

A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance - Prov. 15:13

Envy is rottenness to the bones

Jealousy is a husband's fury - Prov. 6:34

2) The Lord will bless the righteous even in death - 14:31-32

He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker

He who oppresses the poor to increase his riches will come to want - Prov. 16:22

He who honors him has mercy on the needy

He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord - Prov. 19:17

The wicked is banished in his wickedness

The Lord has made even the wicked for the day of evil - Prov. 16:4

The righteous has a refuge in his death

In the presence of the Lord is fullness of joy - Ps. 16:11

3) The Lord blesses the righteous in life - 14:33-35

Wisdom rests in the heart of him that has understanding

The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger - Prov. 19:11

What is in the heart of fools is made known

A fool's mouth is his destruction - Prov. 18:7

Righteousness exalts a nation

By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted - Prov. 11:11

Sin is a reproach to any people

The king's favor is toward a wise servant

The king's favor is as a cloud of the latter rain - Prov. 16:15

The king's wrath is against him who causes shame

6. The blessings for those who obey the Lord - 15:1-33

a. The blessings of wise words - 15:1-9

1) The response that our words get - 15:1-3

A soft answer turns away wrath
A gentle tongue breaks a bone - Prov. 25:15
A harsh word stirs up anger
The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly
The tongue of the wise is health - Prov. 12:18
The mouth of fools pours forth foolishness
The eyes of the Lord are in every place
The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge - Prov. 22:12
The Lord keeps watch on the evil and good

2) The importance of receiving instruction - 15:4-6

A wholesome tongue is a tree of life
The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life - Prov. 11:30
Perverseness in the tongue breaks the spirit
A fool despises his father's instruction
The one who receives correction is prudent
He who keeps instruction is in the way of life - Prov. 10:17
In the house of the righteous there is much treasure
The lips of the righteous feed many - Prov. 10:21
In the revenue of the wicked there is trouble

3) The importance of speaking to the Lord - 15:7-9

The lips of the wise disburse knowledge
The tongue of the wise promotes health - Prov. 12:18
The heart of the fool does not do so
The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord
The prayer of the upright is His delight
The integrity of the upright shall guide them - Prov. 11:3
The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord
The Lord loves him who follows righteousness
The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way - Prov. 11:5

b. The blessings of a godly home - 15:10-17

1) The ungodly do not like correction - 15:10-12

**Harsh discipline is for him who forsakes the way
He who hates correction will die**

Hell and destruction are before the Lord

The Lord is everywhere so He sees all - Ps. 139:8

Much more the Lord sees the hearts of the sons of men

The ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord - Prov. 5:21

A scoffer does not love one who corrects him

A scoffer does not listen to rebuke - Prov. 13:1

A scoffer will not go to the wise

Scoffer is his name who acts with arrogant pride - Prov. 21:24

2) A merry heart brings joy - 15:13-15

A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance

A merry heart does good like medicine - Prov. 17:22

By sorrow of heart the spirit is broken

A broken spirit dries the bones - Prov. 17:22

Who can bear a broken spirit? - Prov. 18:14

The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge

A heart of understanding will draw out counsel - Prov. 20:5

The mouth of fools feeds on foolishness

All the days of the afflicted are evil

The one who has mercy on the afflicted (poor) is happy - Prov. 14:21

He who has a merry heart has a continual feast

They rested and made it a day of feasting and gladness - Esth. 9:17-18

3) The blessings of a loving home - 15:16-17

Better is a little with the fear of the Lord

In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence - Prov. 14:26

Than great treasure with trouble

Treasures of wickedness profit nothing - Prov. 10:2

Better is a dinner of herbs where love is

Dinner of vegetables (the food of the poor)

Than a fatted calf with hatred

c. The blessings of a godly life - 15:18-25

1) Godly character bears good fruit - 15:18-20

A wrathful man stirs up strife

An angry man stirs up strife - Prov. 29:22

He who is slow to anger quiets contention

He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty - Prov. 16:32

The way of a lazy man is like a hedge of thorns

He does not see his excuses bring poverty - Prov. 6:11

The way of the upright is like a highway (built up)

The highway of the upright is to depart from evil - Prov. 16:17

A wise son makes a father glad

Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice - Prov. 29:3

A foolish son despises his mother

He scorns obedience to his mother - Prov. 30:17

2) Wise counsel provides discernment - 15:21-22

Folly is joy to him who lacks discernment

A man of understanding walks uprightly

The integrity of the upright shall guide them - Prov. 11:3

Without counsel plans are frustrated

With a multitude of counselors plans are established

In the multitude of counselors there is safety - Prov. 11:14

3) Words of encouragement lift up others - 15:23-25

A man has joy by the answer of his mouth

The hope of the righteous will be joy - Prov. 10:28

A word spoken in due season, how good it is

A friend loves at all times (in due season) - Prov. 17:17

The way of life winds upward for the wise

The path of the just is like the shining sun - Prov. 4:18

He chooses to turn away from hell below

The Lord will destroy the house of the proud

Look on everyone who is proud and humble him - Job. 40:11

The Lord will establish the boundary of the widow

Their Redeemer will plead their cause - Prov. 28:10-11

d. The blessings of a pure heart - 15:26-33

1) The thoughts of the righteous are encouraging - 15:26-28

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord

The words of the pure are pleasant

He that has a pure heart speaks words of grace - Prov. 22:11

He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house

He who hates bribes will live

The heart of the righteous studies how to answer

My mouth shall speak truth - Prov. 8:7

The mouth of the wicked pours out evil

The mouth of the wicked speaks what is perverse - Prov. 10:32

2) The prayer of the righteous brings peace - 15:29-30

The Lord is far from the wicked

The wicked shall be cut off from the earth - Prov. 2:22

The Lord hears the prayer of the righteous

The prayer of the upright is His delight - Prov. 15:8

The light of the eyes rejoices the heart

It is like good news from a far country - Prov. 15:25

A good report makes the bones healthy

Pleasant words are health to the bones - Prov. 16:24

3) The ears of the godly are open to instruction - 15:31-33

He whose ear listens to the rebukes of life

He who heeds counsel is wise - Prov. 12:15

Will abide among the wise

A wise man fears and departs from evil - Prov. 14:16

He who distains instruction despises his own soul

Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains instruction - Prov. 13:18

He who heeds rebuke gets understanding

Turn at my rebuke and I will pour out my spirit on you - Prov. 1:23

The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Prov. 9:10

Before honor comes humility

By humility and the fear of the Lord are honor - Prov. 22:4

B. Proverbs to encourage godly living - 16:1-22:16

1. The Lord sees the heart of each person - 16:1-33

a. The Lord looks at the motives of the heart - 16:1-8

1) The Lord knows our hearts and thoughts - 16:1-4

The preparations of the heart belong to man

The are many plans in the heart of a man - Prov. 19:21

The answer of the tongue is from the Lord

All the ways of man are pure in his own eyes

Every way of man is right in his own eyes - Prov. 21:2

However, the Lord weights the spirits

The Lord looks on the heart - I Sam. 16:7

Commit your works to the Lord

He shall direct your paths - Prov. 3:6

Then your thoughts will be established

Every purpose is established by counsel - Prov. 20:18

The Lord has made all for Himself

The Lord made even the wicked for the day of doom

God is patient with vessels of wrath prepared for destruction - Rom. 9:22-23

2) The Lord gives each person choices - 16:5-6

Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord

The Lord hates pride, arrogance and the evil way - Prov. 8:13

Though they join forces none will go unpunished

In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity

By the fear of the Lord one departs from evil

A wise man fears and departs from evil - Prov. 14:16

3) The Lord is the One who gives peace - 16:7-8

When a man's ways please the Lord

The Lord makes even his enemies to be at peace with him

Better is a little with righteousness

It is better than great treasure - Prov. 15:16

Than vast revenues without justice

b. The Lord looks for a righteous life - 16:9-17

1) The heart of a man makes his own plans - 16:9-11

A man's heart plans his way

There are many plans in the heart of man - Prov. 19:21

The Lord directs his steps

A man's steps are of the Lord - Prov. 20:24

Divination is on the lips of the king

His mouth must not transgress in judgment

Honest weights and scales are the Lord's

Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 11:1

All the weights in the bag are His work

2) The Lord looks for godly rulers - 16:12-15

It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness

A throne is established by righteousness

Remove the wicked and the throne is established by righteousness - Prov. 25:5

Righteous lips are the delight of kings

The king's favor is toward a wise servant - Prov. 14:35

The people love him who speaks what is right

Righteousness exalts a nation - Prov. 14:34

As messengers of death is the king's wrath

A wise man will appease that anger

In the light of a king's face is life

The king's favor is like a cloud of the latter rain

The king's favor is like dew on the grass - Prov. 19:12

3) The upright depart from evil - 16:16-17

It is much better to get wisdom than to get gold

Nothing can be compared in value to wisdom - Prov. 8:10-11

Understanding is to be chosen rather than silver

True understanding comes from the Lord - Prov. 3:5

The highway of the upright is to depart from evil

A wise man fears and departs from evil - Prov. 14:16

He who keeps his way preserves his soul

He who keeps his commandment keeps his soul - Prov. 19:16

c. The Lord looks for a humble spirit - 16:18-25

1) The danger of a proud spirit - 16:18-20

Pride goes before destruction

Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty - Prov. 18:2

A haughty spirit goes before a fall

Better is a humble spirit with the lowly

The humble in spirit will retain honor - Prov. 29:23

Than to divide the spoil with the proud

He who heeds the word wisely will find good

Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise - Prov. 22:17

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold - Prov. 25:11

Whoever trusts in the Lord, happy is he

2) The blessing of a wise spirit - 16:21-23

The wise in heart will be called prudent

Who is wise? Let him understand these things - Hos. 14:9

Sweetness of the lips increases learning

Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it

The wellspring of wisdom is a flowing brook - Prov. 18:4

The correction of fools is folly

The heart of the wise teaches his mouth

The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge - Prov. 18:15

He also adds learning to his lips

The lips of the wise disburse knowledge - Prov. 15:7

3) The contrast between sweetness and destruction - 16:24-25

Pleasant words are like a honeycomb

The words of the pure are pleasant - Prov. 15:26

They are sweetness to the soul and health to the bones

The honeycomb which is sweet to your taste - Prov. 24:13

The tongue of the wise promotes health - Prov. 12:18

There is a way that seems right to a man

Every way of man is right in his own eyes - Prov. 21:2

The end of that way is death

Its end is the way of death - Prov. 14:12

d. The Lord knows the hearts of the evil - 16:26-33

1) Evil actions show what the heart is like - 16:26-28

The person who labors, labors for himself
His hungry mouth drives him on
An ungodly man digs up evil
A worthless man devises evil continually - Prov. 6:12-14
That evil is on his lips like a burning fire
An evil man seeks only rebellion - Prov. 17:11
A perverse man sows strife
The man who speaks perverse things - Prov. 2:11-12
A whisperer separates the best of friends
He who repeats a matter separates friends - Prov. 17:9

2) Evil hearts lead people to do evil - 16:29-30

A violent man entices his neighbor
If sinners entice you do not consent - Prov. 1:10
He leads him in a way that is not good
Their feet run to evil, they make haste to shed blood - Prov. 1:16
He winks with the eye to devise perverse things
He who winks with the eye causes trouble - Prov. 10:10
He purses his lips and brings about evil
Evil men...their lips talk of troublemaking - Prov. 24:1-2

3) The example provided by the godly to the evil - 16:31-33

The silver-haired man is a crown of glory
Children's children are the crown of old men - Prov. 17:6
If it is found in the way of righteousness
He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty
The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger - Prov. 19:11
He who rules his spirit is better than he who takes a city
Whoever has no rule over his spirit is like a city broken down - Prov. 25:28
The lot is cast in the lap
Casting lots causes contentions to cease - Prov. 18:18
Its every decision is from the Lord
The lot...its every decision is from the Lord - Prov. 16:33

2. The Lord helps us understand others - 17:1-28

a. The Lord gives us love for others - 17:1-9

1) Love determines the condition of the heart - 17:1-3

Better is a dry morsel with quietness
Better is a dinner of herbs where love is - Prov. 15:17a
Than a house full of feasting with strife
Than a fatted calf with hatred - Prov. 15:17b
A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame
He will share the inheritance among the brothers
The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold
But the Lord tests the hearts
The Lord weighs the hearts - Prov. 21:2

2) Love recognizes that the Lord will be the final judge - 17:4-6

An evildoer gives heed to false lips
A liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue
The unfaithful will be caught by their own lust - Prov. 11:6
He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker
He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker - Prov. 14:31
He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished
Therefore his calamity shall come suddenly - Prov. 6:15
Children's children are the crown of old men
The glory of children is their father

3) Love is needed to cover all sins - 17:7-9

Excellent speech is not becoming to a fool
Wisdom is too lofty for a fool - Prov. 24:7
Much less lying lips to a prince
A present is a precious stone in the eyes of the possessor
Wherever he turns he prospers
He who covers a transgression seeks love
Love covers all sins - Prov. 10:12
He who repeats a matter separates friends
A whisperer separates the best of friends - Prov. 16:28

b. The Lord tells how the wicked deceive others - 17:10-19

1) The wise and the foolish respond very differently - 17:10-12

Rebuke is more effective for a wise man
Rebuke a wise man and he will love you - Prov. 9:8
Than a hundred blows on a fool
An evil man seeks only rebellion
Evil men do not understand justice - Prov. 28:5
Therefore a cruel messenger will be sent against him
Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs
Rather than a fool in his folly

2) The evil do not want wisdom - 17:13-16

Whoever rewards evil for good
Evil pursues sinners - Prov. 13:21
Evil will not depart from his house
The beginning of strife is like releasing water
It is honorable for a man to stop striving - Prov. 20:3
Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts
He who justifies the wicked and He who condemns the just
The one who calls the wicked righteous will be cursed - Prov. 24:24
Both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord
Why is there in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom
A fool cannot buy wisdom because he despises it - Prov. 1:7
Since he has no heart for it?

3) The evil love evil and strife - 17:17-19

A friend loves at all times
There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother - Prov. 18:24
And a brother is born for adversity
A man devoid of understanding shakes hands in a pledge
And becomes surety for his friend
He who loves transgression loves strife
An angry man loves strife - Prov. 29:22
He who exalts his gate seeks destruction
Pride goes before destruction - Prov. 16:18

c. The Lord tells how godly wisdom changes people - 17:20-28

1) The wicked have a deceitful heart - 17:20-22

He who has a deceitful heart finds no good

Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil - Prov. 12:20

He who has a perverse tongue falls into evil

Perverseness in the tongue breaks the spirit - Prov. 14:4

He who begets a scoffer does so to his sorrow

The father of a fool has no joy

A merry heart does good, like medicine

A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance - Prov. 15:13

A broken spirit dries the bones

By sorrow of the heart a spirit is broken - Prov. 15:13

2) The wicked pervert the ways of justice - 17:23-25

A wicked man accepts a bribe behind the back

The wicked man does deceptive work - Prov. 11:18

To pervert the ways of justice

A wicked man walks with a perverse mouth - Prov. 6:12

Wisdom is in the sight of him who has understanding

Wisdom rests in the heart of him who has understanding - Prov. 14:33

But the eyes of a fool are on the end of the earth

A foolish son is a grief to his father

And bitterness to her that bore him

3) The righteous become people of understanding - 17:26-28

To punish the righteous is not good

It is not good to overthrow the righteous in judgment - Prov. 18:5

Not to strike princes for their uprightness

He who walks in his uprightness fears the Lord - Prov. 14:2

He who has knowledge spares his words

He who restrains his lips is wise - Prov. 10:19

And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit

He that is slow to wrath has great understanding - Prov. 14:29

Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace

When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive

3. The Lord reveals the hearts of the wise and foolish - 18:1-24

a. The foolish live only for themselves - 18:1-8

1) The foolish love to give their own opinions - 18:1-2

A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire
He rages against all wise judgment
Keep sound wisdom and discretion - Prov. 3:21-22
A fool has no delight in understanding
The words of his mouth begin with foolishness - Eccl. 10:12-14
His only concern is to express his own heart
A fool lays open his folly - Prov. 13:16

2) The foolish fail to learn from the wise - 18:3-5

When the wicked comes, contempt comes also
With dishonor comes reproach
The words of a man's mouth are deep waters
Counsel in the heart of man is like deep waters - Prov. 20:5
The wellspring of wisdom is a flowing brook
The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life - Prov. 10:11
It is not good to show partiality to the wicked
It is not good to show partiality in judgment - Prov. 24:23
It is not good to overthrow the righteous in judgment
To punish the righteous is not good - Prov. 17:26

3) The foolish cause conflicts by their words - 18:6-8

A fool's lips enter into contention
In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride - Prov. 14:3
A fool's mouth calls for blows
A fool's mouth is his destruction
The mouth of the foolish is near destruction - Prov. 10:14
A fool's lips are the snare of his soul
The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles (wounds)
There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword - Prov. 12:18
Those words go down into the inmost body
By sorrow of heart the spirit is broken - Prov. 15:13

b. The Lord gives strength to the humble - 18:9-16

1) The Lord protects the righteous - 18:9-11

He who is slothful in his work

The one who has a slack hand becomes poor - Prov. 10:4

Is a brother to him who is a great destroyer

The name of the Lord is a strong tower

This speaks of those who depend on the Lord for strength - Ps. 27:5

The righteous run into it and are safe

Whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe - Prov. 29:25

The rich man's wealth is his strong city

This speaks of those who depend on their riches for strength - Prov. 11:28

He is like a high wall in his own esteem

2) The Lord humbles the proud - 18:12-13

Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty

Pride goes before destruction - Prov. 16:18

Before honor is humility

This is the result of the fear of the Lord - Prov. 15:33

He who answers a matter before he hears it

A fool only wants to express his own opinions - Prov. 18:2

It is folly and shame to him

3) The Lord blesses the wise - 18:14-16

The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness

A merry heart gives inner strength - Prov. 17:22

But who can bear a broken spirit?

By sorrow of heart the spirit is broken - Prov. 15:13

The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge

The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge - Prov. 15:14

The ear of the wise seeks knowledge

The ear that hears rebuke will abide among the wise - Prov. 15:31

A man's gift makes room for him

A present is a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor - Prov. 17:8

His gift brings him before great men

Every man is a friend to him who gives gifts - Prov. 19:6

c. The Lord knows the hearts of all people - 18:17-24

1) People think their own opinions are right - 18:17-18

The first one to plead his cause seems right
The problem of only hearing one side of a story
Until his neighbor comes and examines him
There is always a second side to each story - Prov. 28:11
Casting lots causes contentions to cease
Casting lots keeps the mighty apart
Its every decision is from the Lord - Prov. 16:33

2) People do not realize the power of their tongue - 18:19-21

A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city
Offended (transgressed) - to sin against - Is. 53:12
Contentions are like the bars of a castle
A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth
A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth - Prov. 13:2
From the produce of his lips he shall be filled
He who guards his mouth preserves his life - Prov. 13:3
Death and life are in the power of the tongue
The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips - Prov. 12:13
Those who love it will eat its fruit
He who guards his mouth preserves his life - Prov. 13:3

3) People learn when the Lord guides them - 18:22-24

He who finds a wife finds a good thing
A prudent wife is from the Lord - Prov. 19:14
He obtains favor from the Lord
A virtuous wife is a crown to her husband - Prov. 12:4
The poor man uses entreaties
He must pursue his friends with words - Prov. 19:7
The rich man answers roughly
The rich man glories in his riches - Jer. 9:23
A man who has friends must himself be friendly
There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother
A friend loves at all times - Prov. 17:17

4. The Lord gives us a concern for others - 19:1-29

a. This concern includes the poor - 19:1-7

1) Many poor walk in integrity - 19:1-2

Better is the poor who walks in his integrity

He is better than one perverse in his ways though he is rich - Prov. 28:6

Than one who is perverse in his lips, and a fool

Put perverse lips far from you - Prov. 4:24

It is not good for a soul to be without knowledge

Knowledge is easy to him who understands - Prov. 14:6

He sins who hastens with his feet

He who hastens to be rich shall not go unpunished - Prov. 28:20

2) The poor are often forgotten by the selfish - 19:3-5

The foolishness of a man twists his way

The perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them - Prov. 11:3

His heart frets against the Lord

Wealth makes many friends

The wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous - Prov. 13:22

The poor is separated from his friend

A false witness will not go unpunished

A false witness shall perish - Prov. 21:28

He who speaks lies will not escape

A deceitful witness speaks lies - Prov. 14:25

3) God tells us why He made the poor - 19:6-7

Many entreat the favor of nobility

Many seek the ruler's favor - Prov. 29:26

Every man is a friend to one who gives gifts

All the brothers of the poor hate him

The righteous considers the cause of the poor - Prov. 29:7

How much more do his friends go far from him

They desired only that we should remember the poor - Gal. 2:10

He may pursue them with words, yet they abandon him

Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith - Jam. 2:5

b. This concern includes developing godly character - 19:8-14

1) Godly character begins with godly wisdom - 19:8-9

He who gets wisdom loves his own soul

Wisdom is the principal thing. Therefore get wisdom - Prov. 4:7

He who keeps understanding will find good

He who heeds the word wisely will find good - Prov. 16:20

A false witness will not go unpunished

A false witness shall perish - Prov. 21:28

He who speaks lies will perish

The mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped - Ps. 63:11

2) Godly character is lacking in many - 19:10-11

Luxury is not fitting for a fool

Honor is not fitting for a fool - Prov. 26:1

Much less for a servant to rule princes

The earth cannot bear...a servant when he reigns - Prov. 30:21-22

The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger

He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty - Prov. 16:32

His glory is to overlook a transgression

We are called to forgive one another - Eph. 4:32

3) A godly wife is a blessing from the Lord - 19:12-14

The king's wrath is like the roaring of a lion

As messengers of death is a king's wrath - Prov. 16:14

The king's favor is like dew on the grass

The king's favor is toward a wise servant - Prov. 14:35

A foolish son is the ruin of his father

A foolish son is a grief to his father - Prov. 17:25

The contentions of a wife are a continual dripping

Continual dripping and a contentious woman are alike - Prov. 27:15

Houses and riches are an inheritance from fathers

This is parents who lay up for the children - II Cor. 12:14

A prudent wife is from the Lord

A excellent wife is the crown of her husband - Prov. 12:4

A virtuous wife her worth is far above rubies - Prov. 31:10

c. This concern causes us to learn from others - 19:15-21

1) We learn from the commandments of the Lord - 19:15-16

Laziness casts one into a deep sleep

This talks about a lazy person who lacks self-control - Prov. 24:33

An idle person will suffer hunger

Poverty will come on a lazy person like a prowler - Prov. 6:11

He who keeps the commandments keeps his soul

He who fears the commandment will be rewarded - Prov. 13:13

He who is careless of his way will die

One who despises the way of the Lord will die - Prov. 10:29

2) We learn from the poor - 19:17-18

He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord

He who gives to the poor will not lack - Prov. 28:27

The Lord will pay back what he has given

The deeds of a man's hands will be returned to him - Prov. 2:14

Chasten your son while there is hope

He who loves his son disciplines him promptly - Prov. 15:24

Do not set your heart on his destruction

Correct your son and he will give you rest - Prov. 29:17

3) We learn as we receive counsel - 19:19-21

A man of great wrath will suffer punishment

A furious man abounds in transgression - Prov. 29:22

If you rescue him, you will have to do it again

An angry man stirs up strife - Prov. 29:22

Listen to counsel and receive instruction

He who listens to counsel is wise - Prov. 12:15

That you may be wise in your latter days

Hear instruction and be wise - Prov. 8:33

He who walks with wise men will be wise - Prov. 13:20

There are many plans in a man's heart

The preparations of the heart belong to man - Prov. 16:1

Nevertheless the Lord's counsel—that will stand

The Lord directs his steps - Prov. 16:9

d. This concern will guide how we treat others - 19:22-29

1) A righteous person speaks kindness - 19:22-23

What is desired in a man is kindness
A godly person will show kindness - II Pet. 1:7
A poor man is better than a liar
The fear of the Lord leads to life
The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life - Prov. 14:27
He who has it will abide in satisfaction
He will not be visited with evil
No grave trouble will overtake the righteous - Prov. 12:21

2) A righteous person wants to learn more - 19:24-26

A lazy man buries his hand in the bowl
It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth - Prov. 26:15
He will not so much as bring it to his mouth again
Strike a scoffer and the simple will become wary
Strike a scoffer and the simple is made wise - Prov. 21:11
Rebuke one who has understanding, and he will discern knowledge
Rebuke a wise man and he will love you - Prov. 9:8
A son who mistreats his father and chases away his mother
Is a son who causes shame and brings reproach
A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame - Prov. 17:2

3) An unrighteous person will not hear instruction - 19:27-29

If you cease listening to instruction my son
A wicked man...shall die for lack of instruction - Prov. 5:22-23
You will stray from the words of knowledge
A disreputable witness scorns justice
A deceitful witness speaks lies - Prov. 14:25
The mouth of the wicked devours iniquity
A person who drinks iniquity like water - Job 15:16
Judgments are prepared for scoffers
If you scoff, you shall bear it alone - Prov. 9:12
Beatings are prepared for the backs of fools
A rod is for the back of him who is devoid of understanding - Prov. 10:13

5. The Lord warns about things that destroy - 20:1-30

a. Some things that can destroy - 20:1-7

1) The effects of strong drink on a person - 20:1

Wine is a mocker

It will destroy those who misuse it - Prov. 23:29-35

Strong drink is a brawler

The priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink - Is. 28:7

Whoever is led astray by it is not wise

It is not for kings to drink wine - Prov. 31:4-5

2) The things many do to destroy themselves - 20:2-4

The wrath of a king is like the roaring of a lion

Whoever provokes his anger sins against his own life

We are to submit to those in authority over us - Rom. 13:1

It is honorable for a man to stop striving

He who is slow to anger allays contention - Prov. 15:18

Any fool can start a quarrel

A fool's lips enter into contention - Prov. 18:6

The lazy man will not plow because of winter

The lazy man will beg during harvest and have nothing

The desire of a lazy man kills him, his hands refuse to labor - Prov. 21:25

3) The contrast of those who follow the Lord - 20:5-7

Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water

The words of a man's mouth are like deep waters - Prov. 18:4

A man of understanding will draw it out

A man of understanding will attain wise counsel - Prov. 1:5

Most men will each proclaim his own goodness

Who can find a faithful man?

A faithful man will abound with blessings - Prov. 28:20

The righteous man walks in his integrity

The house of the righteous shall stand - Prov. 12:7

His children are blessed after him

The righteous...his descendants are blessed - Ps. 37:25-26

b. The choices we make that change our lives - 20:8-14

1) The heart determines the actions - 20:8-10

A king who sits on the throne of judgment

A wise king sifts out the wicked - Prov. 20:26

The king scatters all evil with his eyes

Take away the evil and his throne will be established in righteousness - Prov. 25:6

Who can say, "I have made my heart clean?"

The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked - Jer. 17:9

Who can say, "I am pure from my sin?"

Sin is blotted out at the time of salvation - Acts 3:19

Diverse weights and diverse measures

Dishonest scales are not good - Prov. 20:23

Both alike are an abomination to the Lord

Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 11:1

2) The godly child will have changed actions - 20:11-12

Even a child is known by his deeds

A child left to himself brings shame to his mother - Prov. 29:15

Whether what he does is good and right

A father who begets a wise child will delight in him - Prov. 23:24

The hearing ear and the seeing eye

Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise - Prov. 22:17

The Lord has made them both

He who planted the ear... He who formed the eye... - Ps. 94:9

3) The results of choices a person makes - 20:13-14

Do not love sleep, lest you come to poverty

Laziness casts one into a deep sleep - Prov. 19:15

Loving sleep can lead to poverty - Prov. 24:33-34

Open your eyes and you will be satisfied with bread

He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread - Prov. 12:11

"It is good for nothing," cries the buyer

The buyer says the item has little or no value

When he has gone his way, then he boasts

The buyer later boasts about the good buy he made

c. The choices we make when the Lord guides us - 20:15-22

1) Learn from others with knowledge - 20:15-16

There is gold and a multitude of silver
But the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel
The lips of the wise disburse knowledge - Prov. 15:7
Take the garment of one who is surety for a stranger
He who is surety for a stranger will suffer - Prov. 11:15
Hold it as a pledge when it is for a seductress
Judah gave Tamar his signet, cord and staff as surety - Gen. 38:18

2) Avoid those who try to deceive you - 20:17-19

Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man
Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil - Prov. 12:20
Afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel
Plans are established by counsel
In a multitude of counselors there is safety - Prov. 11:14
By wise counsel wage war
In a multitude of counselors there is safety - Prov. 24:6
He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets
A talebearer reveals secrets - Prov. 11:13
Therefore do not associate with one who flatters with his lips
A man who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet - Prov. 29:5

3) Trust in the Lord to guide you - 20:20-22

Whoever curses his father or his mother
He who curses his father or his mother - Ex. 21:17
His lamp will be put out in deep darkness
He shall surely be put to death - Ex. 21:17
An inheritance gained hastily at the beginning
The simple inherit folly - Prov. 14:18
Will not be blessed at the end
Do not say, "I will recompense evil"
Brethren do not avenge yourselves - Rom. 12:18
Wait for the Lord and He will save you
We also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ - Phil. 3:20

d. The choices that can bring discipline or judgment - 20:23-30

1) The Lord is the One who can guide our steps - 20:23-24

Diverse weights are an abomination to the Lord

Diverse weights and diverse measures are an abomination - Prov. 20:10

Dishonest scales are not good

Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 11:1

A man's steps are of the Lord

A man heart plans his way but the Lord directs his steps - Prov. 16:9

How then man understand his own way?

The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways - Prov. 14:14

2) The Lord knows the things in our spirit - 20:25-27

It is a snare for a man to devote rashly something as holy

Whatever profit you might have received of me is a gift to God - Matt. 15:5

And afterward to reconsider his vows

A wise king sifts out the wicked

A king...scatters all evil with his eyes - Prov. 20:8

And brings the threshing wheel over them

The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord

A man of understanding is of a calm spirit - Prov. 17:27

Searching all the inner depths of his heart

He who searches the heart knows what the mind of the Spirit is - Rom. 8:27

3) The Lord guides and disciplines - 20:28-30

Mercy and truth preserve the king

Mercy and truth belong to those who devise good - Prov. 14:22

And by lovingkindness he upholds his throne

Whoever is wise...will understand the lovingkindness of the Lord - Ps. 107:43

The glory of young men is their strength

The splendor of old men is their gray head

The silver-haired man is a crown of glory - Prov. 16:31

Blows that hurt cleanse away evil

A rod is for the back of him who is devoid of understanding - Prov. 10:13

As do stripes the inner depths of the heart

The rod of correction will drive it far from him - Prov. 22:15

6. the Lord shows what is pleasing to Him - 21:1-31

a. The reason the Lord examines the hearts - 21:1-8

1) The Lord examines the hearts - 21:1-2

The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord
Even evil rulers carried out the will of God - Acts 2:23
Like the rivers of water, He turns it wherever He wishes
Every way of man is right in his own eyes
All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes - Prov. 16:2
But the Lord weighs the hearts
Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? - Prov. 24:12

2) The Lord shows what is acceptable to Him - 21:3-5

To do righteousness and justice
I traverse the way of righteousness in the midst of the paths of justice - Prov. 8:20
Is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice
Behold to obey is better than sacrifice - I Sam. 15:22
A haughty look, a proud heart
A proud look from a proud heart - Is. 2:11; 2:17
And the plowing of the wicked are sin
The lamp of the wicked shall be put out - Prov. 24:20
The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty
The hand of the diligent makes rich - Prov. 10:4; 13:4
Those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty
He who hastens to be rich shall not go unpunished - Prov. 28:20, 22

3) The Lord shows the consequences of a guilty heart - 21:6-8

Getting treasure by lying
Is the fleeting fantasy of those who seek death
The violence of the wicked will destroy them
They refuse to do justice
The way of a guilty man is perverse
This is a person who left the path of the upright - Prov. 2:12-15
As for the pure, his work is right
This can already be seen in a child - Prov. 20:11

b. The reason the Lord shows why many are judged - 21:9-16

1) The Lord shows what various people receive - 21:9-11

Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop
A small room in the corner of a flat roof - II Ki. 4:10
Than in a house shared with a contentious woman
A continual dripping on a very rainy day and
a contentious woman are alike - Prov. 27:15
The soul of the wicked desires evil
Violence covers the mouth of the wicked - Prov. 10:11
His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes
When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise
The simple believe every word so are easily deceived - Prov. 14:15
When the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge
Give instruction to a wise man and he will be yet wiser - Prov. 9:9

2) The Lord sees the choices that people make - 21:12-14

The righteous God wisely considers the house of the wicked
God will judge the righteous and the wicked - Eccles 3:17
Overthrowing the wicked for their wickedness
The house of the wicked shall be overthrown - Prov. 14:11
Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor
He that oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker - Prov. 14:31
Will also cry himself and not be heard
A gift in secret pacifies anger
A man's gift makes room for him - Prov. 18:16
A bribe (gift) behind the back pacifies strong wrath

3) The Lord shows why many face destruction - 21:15-16

It is a joy for the just to do justice
The mouth of the righteous (just) brings forth wisdom - Prov. 10:31
Destruction will come to the workers of iniquity
A man who wanders from the way of understanding
Do not go astray in her (the adulteress) paths - Prov. 7:25
Will rest in the assembly of the dead
All who were slain by her were strong men - Prov. 7:26

c. The reason why wise choices benefit - 21:17-23

1) The Lord shows why choices are necessary - 21:17-19

He who loves pleasure will be a poor man

The glutton and the drunkard will come to poverty - Prov. 23:21

He who loves oil and wine will not be rich

The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous

The years of the wicked will be shortened - Prov. 10:27

The unfaithful shall be a ransom for the upright

The way of the unfaithful is hard - Prov. 13:15

Better to dwell in the wilderness (desert)

He led the flock to the backside of the desert - Ex. 3:1

Than with a contentious and angry woman

A continual dripping on a very rainy day and
a contentious woman are alike - Prov. 27:15

Anger rests in the bosom of fools - Eccles. 7:9

2) The Lord shows the blessing of obedience - 21:20-21

There is desirable treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise

By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches and honor and life - Prov. 22:4

A foolish man squanders it

He swallows down riches and vomits them up again - Prov. 20:15

He who follows righteousness and mercy

He (the Lord) loves him who follows righteousness - Prov. 15:9

Finds life, righteousness and honor

Whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor of the Lord - Prov. 8:35

3) The Lord shows how to have success - 21:22-23

A wise man scales the city of the mighty

This is how David conquered the city of Jerusalem - II Sam. 5:6-9

And brings down the trusted stronghold

David dwelt in the stronghold and called it the city of David - II Sam. 5:9

Whoever guards his mouth and tongue

He who guards his mouth preserves his life - Prov. 13:3

Keeps his soul from troubles

Death and life are in the power of the tongue - Prov. 18:21

d. The reason why people should trust the Lord - 21:24-31

1) The Lord shows the results of pride and laziness - 21:24-26

A proud and haughty man— “Scoffer” is his name

This is the definition of a scoffer (scorner)

He acts with arrogant pride

A disreputable witness scorns justice - Prov. 19:28

The desire of the lazy man kills him

The soul of the lazy man desires and has nothing - Prov. 13:4

For his hands refuse to labor

He is too lazy to even bring food to his mouth - Prov. 26:15

He covets greedily all day long

Poverty will come on him like a prowler - Prov. 6:9-11

The righteous gives and does not spare

The righteous considers the cause of the poor - Prov. 29:7

2) The Lord shows the results for the wicked - 21:27-29

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 15:8

How much more when he brings it with wicked intent

A false witness shall perish

A false witness will not go unpunished - Prov. 19:9

The man who hears him will speak endlessly

A wicked man hardens his face

As for the upright, he establishes his way

The integrity of the upright will guide them - Prov. 11:3

3) The Lord is the source of wisdom - 21:30-31

There is no wisdom or understanding

The Lord is the One who gives wisdom - Prov. 2:6

The Lord established the heavens by understanding - Prov. 3:19

Or counsel against the Lord

The Lord's counsel—that will stand - Prov. 19:21

The horse is prepared for the day of battle

Deliverance is from the Lord

Salvation belongs to the Lord - Ps. 3:8

7. The Lord tells us the blessings of wise choices - 22:1-16

a. We can make choices about what is important in life - 22:1-8

1) Choices about the kind of name we want in life - 22:1-2

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches

A good name is better than precious ointment - Eccles. 7:1

Loving favor is to be chosen rather than silver or gold

Favor in the sight of God and man is very valuable - Prov. 3:4

The rich and the poor have this in common

The Lord is the maker of them all

The Lord is the Maker of us as well as all things - Is. 51:3

2) Choices that keep us from being deceived - 22:3-5

A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself

The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way - Prov. 14:8

The simple pass on and are punished

By humility and the fear of the Lord

The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom - Prov. 15:33

Are riches and honor and life

Fools despise wisdom and instruction - Prov. 1:7

Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse

He who guards his soul will be far from them

Whoever guards his mouth keeps his soul from troubles - Prov. 21:23

3) Choices in the training of our children - 22:6-8

Train up a child in the way he should go

We train by example and invite imitation - I Cor. 4:14-16

When he is old he will not depart from it

At the same time we are to imitate Christ - I Cor. 11:1

The rich rules over the poor

He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord - Prov. 19:17

The borrower is servant to the lender

He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow

Those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same - Job. 4:8

The rod of his anger will fail

b. We can make choices that benefit or destroy - 22:9-16

1) Good choices come from a pure heart - 22:9-11

He who has a generous eye will be blessed

Those who sow generously will reap generously - II Cor. 9:6

He gives of his bread to the poor

He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord - Prov. 19:17

Cast out the scoffer and contention will leave

A proud and haughty man (a scoffer) acts with great pride - Prov. 21:24

Yes, strife and reproach will cease

Shame shall be the legacy of fools - Prov. 3:35

He who loves purity of heart and has grace on his lips

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God - Matt. 5:8

The king will be his friend

2) All choices result in consequences - 22:12-13

The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge

The eyes of the Lord are in every place - Prov. 15:3

He overthrows the words of the faithless

The faithless shall be taken in their own naughtiness - Prov. 11:6

The lazy man says, "There is a lion outside!"

The lazy man looks for every excuse to do nothing - Prov. 21:25

I shall be slain in the streets

3) Sinful choices will hurt or destroy - 22:14-16

The mouth of the immoral woman is a deep pit

The immoral woman flatters with her words - Prov. 2:16; 7:5

He who is abhorred by the Lord will fall there

The sinner will be trapped by her words - Eccles. 7:26

Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child

The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked - Jer. 17:9

The rod of correction will drive it far from him

He who loves his son disciplines him promptly - Prov. 13:24

He who oppresses the poor to increase his riches

They will be judged by God - James 2:4-6, 13

He who gives to the rich, will surely come to poverty

C. Proverbs to deal with specific practices - 22:17-23:35

1. Proverbs about gaining knowledge - 22:17-23

a. Hear the words of the wise - 22:17-19

Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise

Listen to the words of those who are wise - Prov. 5:1

Apply your heart to my knowledge

Receive instruction from the things you see around you - Prov. 24:32

It is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you

Let the words of wisdom enter your heart to guide you - Prov. 2:10-11

Let them all be fixed upon your lips

Let the words that you speak be acceptable to the Lord - Ps. 19:14

So that your trust may be in the Lord

We are to trust the Lord with our whole heart - Prov. 3:5-6

I have instructed you today, even you

b. Learn what the real truth is - 22:20-21

I have written to you excellent things

The Lord wants us to understand godly wisdom - Prov. 8:6

These are of counsels and knowledge

We will fall if we depend on our own counsels - Ps. 5:10

This is to make you know the certainty of the words of truth

We want to know that what we teach is truth - Luke 1:3-4

Then you can answer words of truth to those who send you

The Word of God is our source of truth - II Pet. 1:19-21

c. Do not take advantage of the poor - 22:22-23

Do not rob the poor because he is poor

It offends our Creator when we oppress the poor - Prov. 14:31

Do not oppress the afflicted at the gate

We are to plead the cause of the poor and needy - Prov. 31:9

The Lord will plead their cause

The Redeemer is mighty who will plead their cause - Prov. 23:11

The Lord will plunder the soul of those who plunder them

The Lord will repay according to His time - Rom. 12:19

2. Proverbs about various situations a person may face - 22:24-29

a. The warning about the angry man - 22:24-25

Make no friendship with an angry man

A quick-tempered man acts foolishly - Prov. 14:17

Do not go with a furious man

A furious man abounds in sins - Prov. 29:22

A furious man continues to repeat his acts - Prov. 19:19

You will learn his ways

Evil company corrupts good habits - I Cor. 15:33

You will set a snare for your soul

The fear of man brings a snare - Prov. 29:25

b. The warning against becoming surety for another - 22:26-27

Do not be one of those who shakes hands in a pledge

A man lacking understanding shakes hands in a pledge - Prov. 17:18

This is one who is surety for debts

Surety is becoming responsible for the debts of someone else

He who is surety for a stranger will suffer - Prov. 11:15

If you have nothing with which to pay

Foolish examples of surety - Prov. 20:16

Why should he take away your bed from under you

Surety could cost you everything that you own

c. The warning against trying to steal the property of another - 22:28-29

Do not remove the ancient landmark

This was the way some stole land from their neighbors - Prov. 23:10

This is the property line your fathers have set

This was clearly forbidden in the law - Deut. 19:14

Do you see a man who excels in his work

Joseph had been faithful even in prison - Gen. 39:22-23

He will stand before kings

Joseph had later stood before Pharaoh - Gen. 41:14-16, 46

Solomon had servants that were happy before him - I Ki. 10:8

He will not stand before unknown men

Paul later stood before many rulers - Acts 9:15

3. Proverbs about various goals people have - 23:1-8

a. Some try to please a ruler who seeks self glory - 23:1-3

When you sit down to eat with a ruler
Consider carefully what is set before you
Understand the goal of the ruler - Prov. 28:11
Put a knife to your throat
If you are a man who loves to eat
Do not desire his delicacies
Those delicacies are deceptive food
Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself - Dan. 1:8

b. Some have their whole focus on riches - 23:4-5

Do not overwork to become rich
The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil - I Tim. 6:10
Because of your own understanding know when to stop
Do not be wise in your own opinion - Rom. 12:16
Do not set you eyes on that which is not
Many people with riches focus on their pleasures - Luke 12:19-20
Riches certainly make themselves wings
Focus on riches is like putting money in bags with holes - Hag. 1:6
They fly away like an eagle toward heaven
Riches do not last forever - Prov. 27:24
We will leave them all behind - Luke 12:21

c. Some people are just selfish - 23:6-8

Do not eat the bread of a selfish person
A man with an evil eye hastens after riches - Prov. 28:22
Do not desire his delicacies
For as he thinks in his heart, so is he
The thoughts of a man's heart can be evil continually - Gen. 6:5
Eat and drink he says but his heart is not with you
He lays up deceit within himself - Prov. 26:24
The food you have eaten, you will vomit up
You will waste your pleasant words
Pleasant words are sweet to the soul - Prov. 16:24

4. Proverbs about instruction and wisdom - 23:9-16

a. Some take advantage of the helpless - 23:9-11

Do not speak in the hearing of a fool

A fool has no delight in understanding - Prov. 18:2

He will despise your words

Fools despise wisdom and instruction - Prov. 1:7

Do not remove the ancient landmark

These have been set by former generations - Prov. 22:28

Do not enter the fields of the fatherless

The Redeemer of the fatherless is mighty

The Lord relieves the fatherless and the widow - Ps. 146:9

He will plead their cause against you

The Lord will plead the cause of the helpless - Prov. 22:23

b. Some learn through instruction, others through correction - 23:12-14

Apply your heart to instruction

A man of understanding has a calm spirit - Prov. 17:27

Apply your ears to words of knowledge

Hear the words of the wise - Prov. 22:17

Do not withhold correction from a child

A father corrects a son in whom he delights - Prov. 3:12

If you beat him with a rod he will not die

You shall beat him with a rod

You will deliver his soul from hell

Those who accept discipline are delivered from judgment - I Cor. 12:32

c. Those who gain wisdom bring great joy - 23:15-16

My son, if your heart is wise

The wise in heart will receive commands - Prov. 10:8

My heart will rejoice—indeed, I myself

Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice - Prov. 29:3

My inmost being will rejoice

The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice - Prov. 23:24

When your lips speak right things

Wisdom from God helps us speak right things - Prov. 8:6

5. Proverbs about why we can have joy - 23:17-22

a. Reasons to have joy for the future - 23:17-18

Do not let your heart envy sinners

We need to understand the end for sinners - Ps. 73:16-19
The sinners will face judgment in the future - Prov. 24:19-20

Be zealous for the fear of the Lord all the day

Happy is the man who is always reverent - Prov. 28:14

Surely there is a hereafter (eternal life)

We can look toward the future with joy - I Cor. 15:51-58

Your hope will not be cut off

We can look to the blessed hope - Titus 2:13

There is no condemnation in the future of a Christian - Rom. 8:1

b. Reasons why it is important to be wise - 23:19-21

Hear, my son, and be wise

Even the ant can teach us wisdom - Prov. 6:6

We are to hear and act on instruction to be wise - Prov. 8:33

We gain wisdom by walking with wise men - Prov. 13:20

Guide your heart in the way

Out of the heart spring the issues of life - Prov. 4:23

Do not mix with winebibbers

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler - Prov. 20:1

Do not mix with gluttonous eaters of meat

A companion of gluttons shames his father - Prov. 28:7

The drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty

He who loves wine and oil will not be rich - Prov. 21:17

The description of a drunkard - Prov. 23:29-35

Drowsiness will clothe a man with rags

Always sleeping leads to poverty - Prov. 6:10-11

c. Reasons why we are called to listen to our parents - 23:22

Listen to your father who begot you

The blessings of listening to a godly father - Ps. 2:1-5

Do not despise your mother when she is old

A foolish man despises his mother - Prov. 15:20

6. Proverbs about learning to walk in the truth - 23:23-28

a. Things that God says are truth - 23:23

Buy the truth and do not despise it

Christ and the Word of God are truth - John 14:6; John 17:17

Also get wisdom, instruction and understanding

Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom - Prov. 4:7

The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge - Prov. 18:15

Reproofs of instruction are the way of life - Prov. 6:23

He that heeds reproof gets understanding - Prov. 15:32

b. Things that bring joy to parents - 23:24-25

The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice

The thoughts of the righteous are right - Prov. 12:5

He who begets a wise child will delight in him

A wise son heeds his father's instruction - Prov. 13:1

Let your father and mother be glad

My son, be wise, and make my heart glad - Prov. 27:11

Let her who gave birth to you rejoice

The spirit of Mary rejoiced in God my Savior (her Son) - Luke 1:46

c. One key thing that will deceive the heart - 23:26-28

My son, give me your heart

Obedience to godly instruction brings blessings - Prov. 3:1

Obedience to godly instruction gives life - Prov. 4:4

Let your eyes observe my ways

We invite people to imitate us as we imitate Christ - I Cor. 11:1

A harlot is a deep pit

The mouth of an immoral woman is a deep pit - Prov. 22:14

A seductress is a deep well

The adulterous woman flatters with her mouth - Prov. 7:5

She also lies in wait as for a victim

The adulterous woman works to seduce - Prov. 7:10-21

She increases the unfaithful among men

The adulterous woman is effective at seduction - Prov. 7:21-23

The adulterous woman has destroyed many strong men - Prov. 7:25-27

7. Proverbs about the dangers of drunkenness - 23:29-35

a. The effects of drunkenness - 23:29

**Who has woe?
Who has sorrow?
Who has contentions?
Who has complaints?
Who has wounds without cause?
Who has redness of eyes?**

b. The signs of drunkenness - 23:30-32

Those who linger long at the wine
Nabal drank until he became very drunk - I Sam. 25:36
Those who go in search of mixed drinks
Strong drink is a brawler - Prov. 20:1
Do not look on the wine when it is red
When it sparkles in the cup
When it swirls around smoothly
At the last it bites like a serpent
Their poison is like the poison of a serpent - Ps. 58:4
At the last it stings like a viper
From what is crushed a viper comes out (a poisonous snake) - Is. 59:5

c. The consequences of drunkenness - 23:33-35

Your eyes will see strange things
Drunkenness often leads to immorality - Jer. 5:7-8
Your heart will utter perverse things
Many argue and fight when they are drunk - Prov. 2:12
You will be like one who lies down in the middle of the sea
You will be like one who lies at the top of the mast
This was the lookout on the top of a sailing ship (very seasick)
You will say they struck me, but I was not hurt
The injuries are not felt until the person becomes sober
They have beaten me, but I did not feel it
I will seek another drink
Alcoholics develop a craving for alcohol

D. Proverbs to guide your daily life - 24:1-34

1. The benefits of wisdom in daily living - 24:1-8

a. The warning against envying evil men - 24:1-2

Do not be envious of evil men

Evildoers will soon be cut down like the grass - Ps. 37:1-2

Do not desire to be with them

With their hearts they devise violence

Their eyes and heart practice oppression and violence - Jer. 22:17

With their lips they talk of troublemaking

b. The blessings of godly wisdom - 24:3-6

Through wisdom a house is built

Wisdom has built her house - Prov. 9:1-5

By understanding a house is established

A man of understanding walks uprightly - Prov. 15:21

By knowledge the rooms are filled

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge - Prov. 1:7

These are precious and pleasant riches

These are eternal riches - Matt. 6:19-21

A wise man is strong

He who walks with wise men will be wise - Prov. 13:20

A man of knowledge increases strength

By wise counsel you will wage your war

In a multitude of counselors there is safety

There is safety in a multitude of counselors - Prov. 11:14

c. The reason some cannot gain wisdom - 24:7-8

Wisdom is too lofty for a fool

A scoffer seeks wisdom but does not find it - Prov. 17:6

He does not open his mouth at the gate

The gate of the city was where the leaders met - Ruth 4:11-13

He who plots to do evil

They go astray to devise evil - Prov. 14:22

He will be called a schemer

2. The Lord gives us hope as we look to the future - 24:9-16

a. The Lord gives us strength to help the weak - 24:9-10

The devising of foolishness is sin
These things show what is in the heart - Matt. 15:18-19
The scoffer is an abomination to men
Cast out the scoffer and contention will leave - Prov. 22:10
Those who faint in the day of adversity
A person can become weary and discouraged in their soul - Heb. 12:3
Their strength is small
We are to comfort the discouraged and hold up the strengthless - I Thess. 5:14

b. The Lord knows all that is happening - 24:11-12

Deliver those who are drawn toward death
Hold back those stumbling to the slaughter
If you say, "Surely we did not know this."
Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it?
The Lord is the One who weighs the hearts - Prov. 21:2
He who keeps your soul, does He not know it?
Will He not render to each man according to his deeds?
We will reap what we sow - Gal. 6:7-9

c. The Lord gives us hope - 24:13-14

Eat honey because it is good
Eat the honeycomb which is sweet to your taste
It will be like the knowledge of wisdom to your soul
If you have found it, there is a prospect
Your hope will not be cut off

d. The Lord watches over the righteous - 24:15-16

Do not lay in wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous
Do not plunder his resting place
A righteous man shall fall seven times and rise again
The Lord lifts up the righteous with His hand - Ps. 37:23-24
The wicked shall fall by calamity

3. The Lord gives advise to the wise - 24:17-25

a. What to do when your enemy falls - 24:17-18

Do not rejoice when your enemy falls

He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished - Prov. 17:5

Do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles

Jesus warned that the one who betrayed Him faced judgment - Luke. 22:22

Jesus called Judas "Friend" when Judas betrayed Him - Matt. 26:50

The Lord will see it and it will displease Him

He will turn away His wrath from him

b. Two groups facing sudden judgment - 24:19-22

Do not fret because of evildoers

Do not stir up anger within yourself because of evildoers - Ps. 37:1-2

Do not be envious of the wicked

Do not envy sinners in your heart - Prov. 23:17; 24:1-2

There will be no prospect for the evil man

The lamp of the wicked will be put out

Their hope for the future will be cut off - Prov. 23:18

My son, fear the Lord and the king

One brings eternal judgment and the other earthly judgment - I Pet. 2:13-17

Do not associate with those given to change

This speaks of those rebelling against government - Rom. 13:1-7

For their calamity will rise suddenly

Who knows the ruin those two can bring?

c. The danger of calling evil - good - 24:23-25

These things also belong to the wise

It is not good to show partiality in judgment

Partiality means a person has become a judge with evil thoughts - Jam. 2:1-3

He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous"

It is not good to show partiality in judgment - Prov. 18:5

The people will curse him and nations will abhor him

Those who rebuke the wicked will have delight

We are to speak in love when we rebuke the wicked - Eph. 4:15

A good blessing will come upon them

4. The Lord revealed some important lessons - 24:26-34

a. The importance of right priorities - 24:26-27

He who gives a right answer kisses the lips

A right answer is a just and honest answer - Prov. 8:9

Prepare your outside work

Make it fit for yourself in your field

This was their source of food and clothing - Prov. 27:23-27

Afterward build your house

b. The importance of doing what is right - 24:28-29

Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause

For would you deceive with your lips?

A faithful witness does not lie, but a false witness will utter lies - Prov. 14:5

Do not say, "I will do to him just as he has done to me"

We are not to get even but leave all judgment to the Lord - Rom. 12:19

I will render to the man according to his work

We are to love our enemies instead - Matt. 5:44

c. The consequences for a lazy person - 24:30-34

I went by the field of the lazy man

The lazy man did not plant his crops at planting time - Prov. 20:4

I went by the vineyard of the man lacking understanding

Solomon had heard the excuses of the lazy man - Prov. 26:13-16

There the field was, all overgrown with thorns

Its surface was covered with nettles

Its stone wall was broken down

When I saw it, I considered it well

I looked on it and received instruction

In contrast, the lazy man thinks that he is wise but is not - Prov. 26:16

A little sleep, a little slumber

A little folding of the hands to rest

So shall your poverty come like a prowler

The desire of the lazy man kills him because he refuses to work - Prov. 21:25

And your need like an armed man

The lazy man will beg at harvest and have nothing - Prov. 20:4

IV. Proverbs of Solomon copied by the men of Hezekiah- 25:1-29:27

A. Proverbs about relationships with others - 25:1-26:28

1. Healthy relationships with kings (rulers) - 25:1-7

a. Godly kings look to God for guidance - 25:1-3

These are proverbs of Solomon copied by the men of Hezekiah
Solomon spoke a total of 3,000 Proverbs - I Ki. 4:32
It is the glory of God to conceal a matter
The secret things belong to God - Deut. 29:29
The glory of kings is to search out an answer
The kings were to write a copy of the law and read it daily - Deut. 17:18-20
The heavens and the depths cannot be searched
The thoughts of God are far above any of man's thoughts - Is. 55:8-9
The heart of the king is also unsearchable
No man can know the things of a man except that man - I Cor. 2:11

b. Godly kings will purify themselves and others - 25:4-5

Take away the dross from the silver
Cleanse from all impurity so as to be useful - II Tim. 2:21
You put away all of the wicked of the earth like dross - Ps. 119:119
Then it will go to the silversmith for jewelry
Take away the wicked from standing before the king
A king on the throne scatters evil with his eyes - Prov. 20:8
Then his throne will be established in righteousness
A throne is established by righteousness - Prov. 16:12

c. Godly leaders honor those who humble themselves - 25:6-7

Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king
Do not stand in the place of the great
It is better for him to tell you, "Come up here"
He who humbles himself will be exalted - Luke 14:7-11
Otherwise you may be put lower in the presence of the prince
That will shame you in front of the prince
Whoever exalts himself will be humbled - Luke 14:11

2. Healthy relationships with neighbors - 25:8-20

a. Do not talk negatively about your neighbors - 25:8-10

**Do not be in a hurry to go to court
What will happen to you in the end
When your neighbor has put you to shame
Debate your case with your neighbor
Go and tell him his fault between you and him alone - Matt. 18:15
Do not disclose the secret to another
A talebearer reveals secrets (gossip is sin) - Prov. 11:13
The one who hears you may expose you to shame
Then your reputation will be ruined
He that goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets - Prov. 20:19**

b. Speak words that minister to others - 25:11-12

**A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold
A word spoken in due season, how good it is - Prov. 15:23
It is like something that has been set in silver
Like an earring or gold or an ornament of gold
Is a wise rebuke to an obedient ear
Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you - Prov. 9:8**

c. The blessing of a faithful messenger - 25:13-16

**Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
Is a faithful messenger to those who send him
A faithful ambassador brings health - Prov. 13:17
He refreshes the soul of his masters
Whoever falsely boasts of giving
Most men will each proclaim his own goodness - Prov. 20:6
Is like clouds and wind without rain
By long forbearance a ruler is persuaded
He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty - Prov. 16:32
A gentle tongue breaks a bone
Have you found honey?
Eat only as much as you need
Lest you be filled with it and vomit**

d. Things that destroy healthy relationships - 25:17-20

Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house
Lest he become weary of you and hate you
A man who bears false witness against his neighbor
The Lord hates...a false witness who speaks lies - Prov. 6:16-19
Is like a club, a sword and a sharp arrow
There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword - Prov. 12:18
Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble
The unfaithful will be caught by their lust - Prov. 11:6
A harlot...increases the unfaithful among men - Prov. 23:27-28
Is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint
Like one who takes away a garment in cold weather
Is one who sings songs to a heavy heart
The captives in Babylon did not feel like singing songs - Ps. 137:1-4

3. Healthy relationships with enemies - 25:21-24

a. Show love to an enemy - 25:21-22

If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat
We are to love those who treat us as enemies - Matt. 5:44
If your enemy is thirsty, give him water to drink
This is like cold water to a weary soul - Prov. 25:25
For so you will heap coals of fire on his head
We can overcome evil with good - Rom. 12:21
The Lord is the One who will reward you
The Father will reward us in His time - Matt. 6:4, 6

b. Dealing with angry people - 25:23-24

The north wind brings forth rain
This can be a heavy cold rain in November - Ezra 10:9, 13
A backbiting tongue brings forth an angry countenance
Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor will cause anger - Ps. 101:5
It is better to dwell in the corner of a housetop
It is better than living in a large house with her - Prov. 21:9
Than in a house shared with a contentious woman
Contentions are like a continual dripping of water - Prov. 19:13

4. Healthy inner relationships - 25:25-26:2

a. Blessings and dangers of inner attitudes - 25:25-26

As cold water to a weary soul

A weary person may have difficulty sleeping - Ps. 6:6

So is good news from a far country

A good report makes the bones healthy - Prov. 15:30

A righteous man who falters before the wicked

The righteous who fall into sin are disciplined by God - I Cor. 11:30-32

Is like a murky spring and a polluted well

Whoever commits adultery destroys his own soul - Prov. 6:32

b. The danger of inner pride - 25:27-28

It is not good to eat much honey

A little honey gives strength - I Sam. 14:29

A large amount of honey causes one to vomit - Prov. 25:16

So to seek one's own glory is not glory

Whoever exalts himself will be humbled - Luke 14:11

Whoever has no rule over his own spirit

One who rules his spirit is better than one who conquers a city - Prov. 16:32

He who is hasty of spirit (impulsive) exalts folly - Prov. 14 :29

A haughty spirit goes before a fall - Prov. 16:18

Is like a city broken down without walls

The people were in great distress because the wall was broken down - Neh. 1:4

c. Things that are not fitting - 26:1-2

As snow in summer and rain in harvest

Rain in harvest can destroy the crops - I Sam. 12:17

So honor is not fitting for a fool

It is foolish to give honor to a fool - Prov. 26:8

Shame is what will be remembered about fools - Prov. 3:35

Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow

This is when a bird jumps around aimlessly

So a curse without a cause shall not alight

God can turn a curse into a blessing - II Sam. 16:12

Man cannot curse what God has blessed - Num. 22:12

5. Healthy actions when around fools - 26:3-12

a. Fools should not be copied but instead be rebuked - 26:3-6

A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey

A rod for the fool's back

Do not answer a fool according to his folly

Do not agree or argue with his foolishness - Prov. 29:9

Lest you also be like him

Answer a fool according to his folly

Share the Word of God with love but do not argue - Eph. 4:15

Lest he be wise in his own eyes

The mouth of fools feeds on foolishness - Prov. 15:14

He who sends a message by the hand of a fool

A fool will not be a faithful messenger - Prov. 25:13

Cuts off his own feet and drinks violence

The mouth of fools pours forth foolishness - Prov. 15:2

b. Fools will receive their due from God - 26:7-10

Like the legs of the lame that hang limp

Is a proverb in the mouth of a fool

Like one who binds a stone in a sling

Is he who gives honor to a fool

Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard

Is a proverb in the mouth of fools

He only wants to give his own opinions - Prov. 18:2

The great God who formed everything

Give the fool his hire and the transgressor his wages

The wages of sin is death - Rom. 6:23

c. Fools continue to repeat their foolishness - 26:11-12

As a dog returns to his own vomit

So a fool repeats his folly

It is an abomination to fools to depart from evil - Prov. 13:19

Do you see a man wise in his own eyes

This is a man hasty in his words - Prov. 29:20

There is more hope for a fool than for him

6. Healthy relationships when around the lazy - 26:13-16

**The lazy man says, “There is a lion in the road
A fierce lion is in the streets.”**

The lazy man says he might be killed if he goes out - Prov. 22:13

As a door turns on its hinges

A lazy man is like vinegar to the teeth or smoke to the eyes - Prov. 10:26

So does the lazy man on his bed

The lazy man spends much of his time sleeping - Prov. 6:9

The lazy man will not plow because of winter - Prov. 20:4

The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl

He is lazy even when it involves eating - Prov. 19:24

It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth

Everything is like a hedge of thorns (difficult) for the lazy man - Prov. 15:19

The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes

All the ways of man are pure in his own eyes - Prov. 16:2

Than seven men who can answer sensibly

There is more hope for a fool than one wise in his own eyes - Prov. 26:12

The lazy man will reap poverty and be in need - Prov. 24:34

7. Healthy relationships when around evil speakers - 26:17-28

a. One who joins a quarrel not his own may get bitten - 26:17

He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own

Do not strive with a man without cause - Prov. 3:30

Is like one who takes a dog by his ears

A dog may react by biting the person

b. One who deceives his neighbor is very destructive - 26:18-19

Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows and death

Those who throw firebrands kindle destructive fires - Is. 50:11

Those who shoot arrows may shoot to kill - I Sam. 31:3

Is the man who deceives his neighbor

Some people lie about their own neighbor - Prov. 24:28

And says, “I was only joking.”

A lie that destroys is never a joke - it is slander

Whoever spread slanders is a fool - Prov. 10:18

c. One who is contentious causes much conflict - 26:20-22

Where there is no wood, the fire goes out
Where there is no talebearer, strife ceases
A whisperer separates the best of friends - Prov. 16:28
As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire
So is a contentious man to kindle strife
Cast out the scoffer and contention will leave - Prov. 22:10
The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles
They go down into the inmost body

d. One who has a wicked heart tries to hide it - 26:23-26

Fervent lips with a wicked heart
The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked - Jer. 17:9
Are like earthenware covered with silver dross
This is a cheap clay pot that is made to look like it is silver
He who hates disguises it with his lips
Whoever hides hatred has lying lips - Prov. 10:18
He lays up deceit within himself
Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil - Prov. 12:20
When he speaks kindly, do not believe him
They say but do not do what they say - Matt. 7:26
For there are seven abominations in his heart
It is an abomination to fools to depart from evil - Prov. 13:19
Thought his hatred is covered by deceit
They look righteous on the outside but are full of hypocrisy - Matt. 23:28
His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly
Nothing is secret that will not be revealed - Luke 8:17

e. One who speaks false words creates many problems - 26:27-28

Whoever digs a pit will fall into it
Those who cause others to stray will fall into their own pit - Prov. 28:10
He who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him
A lying tongue hates those who are crushed by it
A lying tongue is but for a moment - Prov. 12:19
A flattering mouth works ruin
A man who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet - Prov. 29:5

B. Proverbs about wise actions in life - 27:1-29:27

1. Wise actions in your personal life - 27:1-27

a. Proper attitudes will bless our lives - 27:1-9

1) We are to have a humble attitude - 27:1-3

Do not boast about tomorrow

Our lives are like a vapor that vanishes quickly - Jam. 4:14

You do not know what a day will bring forth

Let another man praise you and not your own mouth

To seek one's own glory is not glory - Prov. 25:27

A stranger, and not your own lips

A stone is heavy and sand is weighty

A fool's wrath is heavier than both of them

A fool's wrath is known at once - Prov. 12:16

2) We are to be a faithful friend - 27:4-6

Wrath is cruel and anger a torrent

Who is able to stand before jealousy?

For jealousy is a husband's fury - Prov. 6:14

Open rebuke is better than love carefully concealed

Faithful are the wounds of a friend

He who gets wisdom loves his own soul - Prov. 19:8

The kisses of an enemy are deceitful

Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss - Matt. 26:49

3) We are to gladly receive wise counsel - 27:7-9

A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb

To a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness - Matt. 5:6

Like a bird who wanders from his nest

Is a man who wanders from his place

Ointment and perfume delight the heart

The sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel

He who heeds counsel is wise - Prov. 12:15

b. Wise decisions will bless our lives - 27:10-18

1) Develop good relationships with neighbors - 27:10-12

Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend

A man who has friends must himself be friendly - Prov. 18:24

Nor go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity

Better is a neighbor nearby than a brother far away

Let each of us please his neighbor for his good - Rom. 15:2

My son, be wise, and make my heart glad

A wise son makes a father glad - Prov. 15:20

That I may answer him who reproaches me

Hear, my son, and be wise and guide your heart in the way - Prov. 23:19

A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself

The simple pass on and are punished

2) The danger of wrong relationships - 27:13-16

Take the garment of him that is surety for a stranger

Hold it in pledge when he is surety for a seductress

Hold his garment as a pledge when it is for a seductress - Prov:20:16

He who blesses his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning

With flattering lips and a double heart they speak - Ps. 12:2

It will be counted a curse to him

A continual dripping on a very rainy day

The contentions of a wife are a continual dripping - Prov. 19:13

And a contentious woman are alike

Whoever restrains her restrains the wind

The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it - John 3:8

And grasps oil with his right hand

3) Good relationships that bring joy - 27:17-18

As iron sharpens iron

So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend

We are to stir up love and good works in one another - Heb. 10:24

Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit

Who plants a vineyard and does not eat its fruit? - I Cor. 9:7

He who waits on his master will be honored

c. Wise and foolish decisions come from the heart - 27:19-27

1) The heart determines the character - 27:19-21

As in water face reflects face
So a man's heart reveals the man
As a man thinks in his heart, so is he - Prov. 23:7
Hell and Destruction are never full
Hell, destruction and the hearts of men are before the Lord - Prov. 15:11
So the eyes of man are never satisfied
A man seeks more and has no one to give it too - Eccl 4:8
The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold
However, the Lord test's the hearts - Prov. 17:3
A man is valued by what others say of him
The righteous God tests the hearts and the minds - Ps. 7:9

2) The heart of the fool can only be changed by God - 27:22

Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with crushed grain
The mouth of the foolish is near destruction - Prov. 10:14
Yet his foolishness will not depart from him
The way of a fool is right in his own eyes - Prov. 12:15

3) The heart recognizes God's provision - 27:23-27

Be diligent to know the state of your flocks
And attend to your herds
The flocks and herds provide for the family – Prov. 27:25-27
For riches are not forever
Nor does a crown endure to all generations
When the hay is removed, and the tender grass shows itself
God sends the rain that causes the crops to grow - Ps. 65:9-10
And the herbs of the mountains are gathered in
The lambs will provide your clothing
The goats the price of a field
You shall have enough goats' milk for your food
For the food of your household
The Lord provides for the household - Prov. 31:15
And the nourishment of your maidservants

2. Wise actions in relation to the law - 28:1-10

a. Those who are righteous are blessed - 28:1-3

The wicked flee when no one pursues
There are they in great fear where no fear was - Ps. 53:5
The righteous are bold as a lion
The lips of the righteous feed many - Prov. 10:21
Because of the transgression of the land, many are its princes
By a man of understanding and knowledge
Right will be prolonged
When it goes right for the righteous, the city rejoices - Prov. 11:10
A poor man who oppresses the poor
Is like a driving rain that leaves no food

b. Those who are rebellious are an abomination to the Lord - 28:4-7

Those who forsake the law praise the wicked
Such as keep the law contend with them
Evil men do not understand justice
The senseless man cannot understand the works of God - Ps. 92:5-6
Those who seek the Lord understand all
They will understand righteousness and justice - Prov. 2:8-9
Better is the poor who walks in his integrity
Then one perverse in his ways, though he be rich
Those with a perverse heart are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 11:20
Whoever keeps the law is a discerning son
A companion of gluttons shames his father

c. Those who take advantage of others will fall - 28:8-10

One who increases his possessions by usury and extortion
Gathers it for him who will pity the poor
One who turns away his ear from hearing the law
Even his prayer is an abomination
Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way
Whoever digs a pit will fall into it - Prov. 26:27
He himself will fall into his own pit
But the blameless will inherit good

3. Wise actions in relation to the rich and the poor - 28:11-28

a. Some people do not make wise choices - 28:11-19

1) The consequences of choices people make - 28:11-13

The rich man is wise in his own eyes

All who are wise in their own eyes are warned to depart from evil - Prov. 3:7

The poor man who has understanding searches him out

When the righteous rejoice, there is great glory

When the wicked arise, men hide themselves

He who covers his sins will not prosper

David suffered physically when he tried to cover his sin - Ps. 32:3-5

Whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy

David experienced mercy when he confessed his sin - Ps. 51:7-13

2) The choices made by those who rule - 28:14-16

Happy is the man who is always reverent

Be zealous for the fear of the Lord all the day - Prov. 23:17

He who hardens his heart will fall into calamity

Like a roaring lion and a charging bear

Is a wicked ruler over poor people

When a wicked man rules, the people groan - Prov. 29:2

A ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor

The tender mercies of the wicked are cruel - Prov. 12:10

He who hates covetousness will prolong his days

3) Our choices determine what we do - 28:17-19

A man burdened with bloodshed will flee into a pit

The penalty for murder was death - Gen. 9:6

Let no one help him

Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved

He who is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall

He who tills his land will have plenty of bread

He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread - Prov. 12:11

He who follows frivolity will have poverty enough

b. Some people need help understanding how choices affect them - 28:20-28

1) Some choices cause a person to face judgment - 28:20-22

A faithful man will abound with blessings
Blessings are on the head of the righteous - Prov. 10:6
He who hastens to be rich shall not go unpunished
To show partiality is not good
Those who show partiality become judges with evil thoughts - Jam. 2:1-4
For a piece of bread a man will transgress
A man with an evil eye hastens after riches
He does not consider that poverty will come upon him
Poverty and shame will come on him who disdains correction - Prov. 13:18

2) Some choices help us grow - 28:23-25

He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward
A loving rebuke shows love to a friend - Prov. 27:5-6
Than he who flatters with the tongue
A man who flatters his neighbor spread a net to catch him - Prov. 29:5
Whoever robs his father or his mother
And says, "It is no transgression"
The same is companion to a destroyer
He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife
Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 16:5
He who trusts in the Lord will be prospered
Whoever trusts in the Lord will be safe - Prov. 29:25

3) Some choices bring great reward - 28:26-28

He who trusts in his own heart is a fool
Whoever walks wisely will be delivered
Whoever trusts in the Lord will be guided by Him - Prov. 3:5-6
He who gives to the poor will not lack
He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord - Prov. 19:17
He who hides his eyes will have many curses
When the wicked arise, men hide themselves
When the wicked perish, the righteous increase
When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices - Prov. 11:10

4. Wise actions and foolish actions - 29:1-27

a. Why people do what they do - 29:1-9

1) Many give no thought to the future - 29:1-3

**He who is often rebuked and hardens his neck
Will suddenly be destroyed and that without remedy**
His calamity shall come suddenly - Prov. 6:15
When the righteous are in authority the people rejoice
When the righteous rejoice, there is great glory - Prov. 28:12
When a wicked man rules the people groan
Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice
A wise son makes a father glad - Prov. 15:20
A companion of harlots wastes his wealth

2) Many want to leave God out of their thinking - 29:4-6

The king establishes the land with justice
By Me kings reign and rulers establish justice - Prov. 8:15
He who receives bribes overthrows it
A man who flatters his neighbor
Spreads a net for his feet
By transgression an evil man is snared
The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips - Prov. 12:13
But the righteous sings and rejoices
Moses led Israel in a song of rejoicing - Ex. 15:1-19

3) Wise people think of what will bless others - 29:7-9

The righteous considers the cause of the poor
He will plead the cause of the poor and needy - Prov. 31:8-9
The wicked does not understand such knowledge
The soul of the wicked desires evil - Prov. 21:10
Scoffers set a city aflame
Wise men turn away wrath
By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted - Prov. 11:11
If a wise man contends with a foolish man
Whether the fool rages or laughs, there is no peace

b. Why the godly person is blessed - 29:10-18

1) The godly know when to speak and when to be quiet - 29:10-12

The bloodthirsty hate the blameless
The upright seek his wellbeing
The righteousness of the upright will deliver them - Prov. 11:6
A fool vents all his feelings
What is in the heart of fools is made known - Prov. 14:34
A wise man holds them back
The heart of the wise teaches his mouth - Prov. 16:23
If a ruler pays attention to lies
All of his servants become wicked

2) The godly help their children become among the wise - 29:13-15

The poor man and the oppressor have this in common
The Lord gives light to the eyes of both
The Lord causes the sun to rise on both the evil and the good - Matt. 5:45
The king who judges the poor with truth
A godly king will bring justice to the poor - Ps. 72:4
His throne will be established forever
The rod and rebuke give wisdom
The ear that hears the rebukes of life will abide among the wise - Prov. 15:31
A child left to himself brings shame to his mother

3) The godly are guided by the Word of God - 29:16-18

When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increases
But the righteous will see their fall
When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked is no more - Prov. 10:25
Correct your son and he will give you rest
Chasten (discipline) your son while there is hope - Prov. 19:18
Yes, he will give delight to your soul
A wise son makes a glad father - Prov. 10:1
Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint
This speaks of a famine for hearing the Word of God - Amos 8:11
But happy is he who keeps the law
One is to meditate on the Word of God day and night - Ps. 1:1-2

c. Why the wise man chooses righteousness - 29:19-27

1) A wise man is quick to hear - 29:19-21

**A servant will not be corrected by mere words
For though he understands, he will not respond
Do you see a man hasty in his words?**

Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath - Jam. 1:19

There is more hope for a fool than for him

There is more hope for a fool than for one wise in his own eyes - Prov. 26:12

**He who pampers his servant from childhood
Will have him as a son in the end**

2) An angry man is controlled by pride - 29:22-24

An angry man stirs up strife

A wrathful man stirs up strife - Prov. 15:18

A furious man abounds in transgression

A man of great wrath will suffer punishment - Prov. 19:19

A man's pride will bring him low

When pride comes, then comes shame - Prov. 15:2

The humble in spirit will retain honor

Before honor is humility - Prov. 15:33

Whoever is partner with a thief hates his own life

He swears to tell the truth, but reveals nothing

3) A righteous man has his trust in the Lord - 29:25-27

The fear of man brings a snare

We do not need to fear those who can only kill the body - Luke 12:4

Whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe

He who trusts in the Lord will be prospered - Prov. 28:25

Many seek the ruler's favor

But justice for man comes from the Lord

He who judges me is the Lord - I Cor. 4:4

An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous

He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow - Prov. 22:8

He who is upright in the way is an abomination to the wicked

The upright seek the wellbeing of the blameless - Prov. 29:10

V. Proverbs written by other men - 30:1-31:31

A. Proverbs of Agur - 30:1-33

1. Proverbs for personal living - 30:1-14

a. The humble attitude of Agur - 30:1-3

The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, his utterance

This man declared to Ithiel— Ithiel and Ucal

Surely I am more stupid than any man

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge - Prov. 1:7

And do not have the understanding of a man

And in all your getting, get understanding - Prov. 4:7

I neither learned wisdom

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom - Ps. 111:10

Nor have knowledge of the Holy One

The knowledge of the Holy One is understanding - Prov. 9:10

b. The questions that describe God - 30:4

Who has ascended into heaven, or descended?

You have ascended on high, You have led captivity captive - Ps. 68:18

Who has gathered the wind in His fist?

The wind blows where it wishes - John 3:8

Who has bound the waters in a garment?

Who shut in the sea with doors - Job 38:8-11

Who has established all the ends of the earth?

Who formed the earth and made it? Who has established it? - Is. 45:18

What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know?

c. The Word of God is pure and is not to be added too - 30:5-6

Every word of God is pure

The words of the Lord are pure...Purified seven times - Ps. 12:6

He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him

Do not add to His words

You shall not add to the word which I command you - Deut. 4:2

Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar

d. The two things Agur requested - 30:7-9

**Two things I request of you
(Deprive me not before I die)
Remove falsehood and lies far from me**
In the multitude of words, sin is not lacking - Prov. 10:19
Give me neither poverty or riches
He who trusts in his riches shall fall - Prov. 11:28
Feed me with the food allotted to me
Give us this day our daily bread - Matt. 6:11
**Lest I be full and deny You
And say, "Who is the Lord?"
Or lest I be poor and steal**
People do not despise a thief ...when he is starving - Prov. 6:30
And profane the name of my God

e. One thing to avoid with a servant - 30:10

**Do not malign a servant to his master
Lest he curse you, and you be found guilty**

f. Pride results in people becoming evil - 30:11-14

There is a generation that curses its father
Whoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out - Prov. 20:20
And does not bless its mother
There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes
All the ways of man are pure in his own eyes - Prov. 16:2
Yet it is not washed from its filthiness
There is a generation— oh, how lofty are their eyes
Seven things are an abomination to Him: a proud look - Prov. 6:16-17
Their eyelids are lifted up
There is a generation whose teeth are like swords
Their tongue is like a sharp razor, working deceitfully - Ps. 52:2
Whose fangs are like knives
To devour the poor from off the earth
They eat up my people as bread - Ps. 14:4
And the needy from among men
Hear this you who swallow up the needy - Amos 8:4

2. Proverbs to be learned from various groups - 30:15-33

a. Four things are never satisfied - 30:15-17

The leech has two daughters - Give and Give!

A leech sucks the blood of others

There are three things that are never satisfied

Four never say enough

The grave

Hell and destruction are never full - Prov. 27:20

The barren womb

Hannah was filled with sorrow because she had no children - I Sam. 1:1:4-8

The earth that is not satisfied with water

Drought and heat consume the snow waters - Job. 24:19

And the fire never says, "Enough!"

As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire - Prov. 26:21

The eye that mocks his father, and scorns obedience to his mother

Ham had a curse placed on his son because he mocked his father - Gen. 9:22

The ravens of the valley will pick it out, and the young eagles will eat it

b. Four things which are too wonderful - 30:18-19

There are three things which are too wonderful for me

Yes four, which I do not understand

The way of an eagle in the air

Those who wait on the Lord will mount up with wings as eagles - Is. 40:31

The way of a serpent on a rock

The way of a ship in the midst of the sea

Even a large ship can be turned by a small rudder - Jam. 3:4

The way of a man with a virgin

c. Some are self deceived - 30:20

This is the way of the adulterous woman

Her ways are unstable; you do not know them - Prov. 5:6

She eats and wipes her mouth, and says,

She may even use food to deceive her victims - Prov. 7:14

"I have done no wickedness"

She uses enticing speech and flattering words to deceive - Prov. 7:21-22

d. Four things that cause the earth to be perturbed - 30:21-23

For three things the earth is perturbed

Yes, for four it cannot bear up

For a servant when he reigns

Much less for a servant to rule over princes - Prov. 19:10

A fool when he is filled with food

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes - Prov. 12:15

A hateful woman when she is married

A woman may be...a contentious and angry woman - Prov. 21:19

A man might hate one wife if he takes a second - Deut. 21:15

A man still had to recognize the right of the firstborn - Deut. 21:16-17

A wife might be falsely accused when she was hated - Deut. 22:13-19

And a maidservant who succeeds her mistress

When Hagar conceived her mistress became despised in her eyes - Gen. 16:4

e. Four small things with great wisdom - 30:24-28

There are four things which are little on the earth

But they are exceedingly wise

The Lord gave wisdom to the animals and insects

The ants exercise wisdom without a leader - Prov. 6:7

The ants are a people not strong

Consider her (the ant) ways and be wise - Prov. 6:6

Yet they prepare their food in the summer

The ants provide their supplies in the summer - Prov. 6:8

The rock badgers are a feeble folk

The conies (rock badgers) were small unclean animals - Lev. 11:5

Yet they make their homes in the crags

The cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers - Ps. 104:18

The locusts have no king

What the crawling locust left, the consuming locust has eaten - Joel 1:4

Yet they all advance in ranks

The locusts are called the army of God - Joel 2:25

The army of locusts march in formation - Joel 2:7-8

The spider (or lizard) skillfully grasps with its hands

Spiders spin their webs wherever they choose

And it is in kings' palaces

Spiders can be found in any building

f. A summary from these sets of four - 30:29-33

1) Four things that are stately in walk - 30:29-31

There are three things which are majestic in pace

Yes, four are stately in walk

You are good and do good - Prov. 119:68

A lion, which is mighty among beasts

The righteous are bold as a lion - Prov. 28:1

Christ is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah - Rev. 5:5

It does not turn away from any

Christ said, "The one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out - John 6:37

A greyhound

A male goat also

A male goat is often used to lead a flock of sheep

A king whose troops are with him

Mercy, truth and lovingkindness uphold the king - Prov. 20:28

The queen of Sheba said happy are those who hear your wisdom - I Ki. 10:8

2) A man is foolish to exalt himself - 30:32-33

If you have been foolish in exalting yourself

The mouth of fools pours forth foolishness - Prov. 15:2

He who exalts his gate seeks destruction - Prov. 17:19

Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king - Prov. 25:6

Or if you have devised evil

They scheme to take away my life - Ps. 31:13

The wicked plots against the just - Ps. 37:12

Put your hand to your mouth

Job laid his hand over his mouth when God questioned him - Job 40:4

Job had earlier told Zophar to put his hand over his mouth - Job. 21:5

For as the churning of milk produces butter

The wringing of the nose produces blood

So the forcing of wrath produces strife

A quick-tempered man acts foolishly - Prov. 14:17

A wrathful man stirs up strife - Prov. 15:18

An angry man stirs up strife - Prov. 29:22

The discretion of man makes him slow to anger - Prov. 19:11

He who is slow to wrath has great understanding - Prov. 14:29

B. Proverbs of Lemuel - 31:1-9

1. Proverbs to warn wise sons - 31:1-5

The words of King Lemuel, the utterance which his mother taught him:

What my son? And what, son of my womb?

And what, son of my vows?

Do not give your strength to women

The immoral woman...will take both your honor and your health - Prov. 5:9

Nor your ways to that which destroys kings

Pride, many women and riches can all lead astray - Deut. 17:16-17

It is not for kings, O Lemuel, to drink wine

It is not for princes to drink intoxicating drink

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler - Prov. 20:1

Lest they forget the law

Kings were to write a copy of the law and read it daily - Deut. 17:18-20

And pervert the justice of all of the afflicted

You shall not pervert justice or show partiality - Prov. 16:19

2. Proverbs to show why people want strong drink - 31:6-7

Give strong drink to him who is perishing

This was done to ease the pain of a dying person - Matt. 27:34

Give wine to those who are bitter of heart

The heart knows its own bitterness - Prov. 14:10

Let him drink and forget his poverty

The destruction of the poor is their poverty - Prov. 10:15

And remember his misery no more

The former troubles are forgotten - Is. 65:16

3. Proverbs about the need to speak for the needy - 31:8-9

Open your mouth for the speechless

Help those who cannot help themselves - Prov. 82:3-4

In the cause of all who are appointed to die

Open your mouth, judge righteously

You shall do no unrighteousness in judgment - Lev. 19:15

Plead the cause of the poor and needy

He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker - Prov. 17:5

C. Proverbs on the excellent wife (writer uncertain) - 31:10-31

1. Proverbs about why her life is so valuable - 31:10-17

a. She has godly character and is trustworthy - 31:10-12

Who can find a virtuous wife?
A prudent wife is from the Lord - Prov. 19:14
An 'excellent' wife is the crown of her husband - Prov. 12:4
For her worth is far above rubies
For wisdom is better than rubies - Prov. 8:11
The heart of her husband safely trusts her
Trust in the Lord with all your heart - Prov. 3:5
So he will have no lack of gain
She does him good and not evil
A good wife is blessed and obtains him favor of the Lord - Prov. 18:22
All the days of her life

b. She is concerned about the needs of her household - 31:13-15

She seeks wool and flax
She willingly works with her hands
She works in such a way that she is well reported by others - Ruth 2:11
She is like the merchant ships
She brings her food from afar
She also rises while it is yet night
She is...not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord - Rom. 12:11
She provides food for her household
She is...a faithful and wise steward - Luke 12:42
She provides a portion for her maidservants

c. She plans ahead and strengthens herself - 31:16-17

She considers a field and buys it
The Lord gives her a fruitful harvest - Ps. 107:37
From her profits she plants a vineyard
She girds herself with strength
Her strength come from the Lord - Eph. 6:10
She strengthens her arms

2. Proverbs about her ministry to others - 31:18-24

a. She works into the evening - 31:18-19

She perceives that her merchandise is good

For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver - Prov. 3:14

Her lamp does not go out by night

She often works late into the night

She stretches out her hands to the distaff

All the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands - Ex. 35:25

Her hand holds the spindle

This work was all done by hand

b. She is concerned for the poor and needy - 31:20-22

She extends her hand to the poor

God said, "Do justice for the afflicted and needy." - Ps. 82:3

She reaches out her hands to the needy

Deliver the poor and needy from the hand of the wicked - Ps. 82:4

They desired only that we should remember the poor - Gal. 1:19

She is not afraid of snow for her household

It snows in the higher parts of Israel so warm clothing is needed - Prov. 26:1

For all her household is clothed in scarlet

Saul...clothed you in scarlet, with luxury - II Sam. 1:24

She makes tapestry for herself

She did not have to buy these coverings from others

Her clothing is fine linen and purple

A certain rich man was clothed in purple and fine linen - Elk. 16:19

c. She and her husband are both respected - 31:23-24

Her husband is known in the gates

Wisdom...cries out by the gates, at the entry of the city - Prov. 8:3

Where he sits among the elders of the land

She encouraged the leadership of her husband - Ruth 4:1-2

She makes linen garments and sells them

Others often bought linen garments - Jud. 14:12-13

And supplies sashes (belts) for the merchants

Jonathan gave David...his armor, his sword, his bow and his belt - I Sam. 18:4

3. Proverbs about the way to be respected - 31:25-31

a. She is respected, wise and kind - 31:25-26

Strength and honor are her clothing

The way of the Lord is strength for the upright - Prov. 10:29
Godly women adorn themselves with good works - I Tim. 2:9-10

She shall rejoice in time to come

Storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come - I Tim. 6:19

She opens her mouth with wisdom

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom - Prov. 10:31

On her tongue is the law of kindness

What is desired in a man (or woman) is kindness - Prov. 19:22

b. She provides her family an example to follow - 31:27-29

She watches over the ways of her household

She does not eat the bread of idleness

An idle person will suffer hunger - Prov. 19:15

Her children rise up and call her blessed

Be imitators of God as dear children - Eph. 5:1

Her husband also, and he praises her

A godly husband...gives honor to the wife - I Pet. 3:7

Many daughters have done well

But you excel them all

This beauty is very precious in the sight of God - I Pet. 3:4

c. She has a life of fruitfulness - 31:30-31

Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing

Outward adornment does not last - I Pet. 3:3

The incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit - I Pet. 3:4

But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised

By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, honor and life - Prov. 22:4

Give her of the fruit of her hands

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life - Prov. 11:30

And let her own works praise her in the gates

Widows...well reported for good works - I Tim. 5:10

Good works also bring glory to God - Matt. 5:16