

# **Proverbs**

**By**

**Duane L. Anderson**

# Proverbs

© Copyright 2010 Duane L. Anderson

7-2011

**American Indian Bible Institute**

**Box 511**

**Norwalk, CA 90651-0511**

**[www.aibi.org](http://www.aibi.org)**

## Proverbs

<b>I. Introduction to the book of Proverbs</b>	<b>1:1-7</b>
A. The writer of the book	1:1
B. The purpose of the book	1:2-6
C. The foundation for all wisdom	1:7
<b>II. Proverbs written especially to the young</b>	<b>1:8-9:18</b>
A. The encouragement to avoid evil people	1:1-19
B. The encouragement to listen to wisdom	1:20-33
C. The encouragement to avoid the adulteress	2:1-22
D. The encouragement to trust in the Lord	3:1-12
E. The encouragement to understand the value of wisdom	3:13-18
F. The encouragement to act with wisdom	3:19-26
G. The encouragement to show kindness to others	3:27-35
H. The encouragement to get wisdom	4:1-9
I. The encouragement to avoid the path of the wicked	4:10-19
J. The encouragement to follow wisdom from your heart	4:20-27
K. The encouragement to avoid immorality	5:1-23
L. The encouragement to avoid surety	6:1-5
M. The encouragement to avoid laziness	6:6-19
N. The encouragement to avoid adultery	6:20-35
O. The encouragement to avoid the prostitute	7:1-27
P. The encouragement to seek wisdom instead of folly	8:1-9:18
1. The description of wisdom	8:1-21
2. The source of wisdom	8:22-31
3. The blessings of wisdom	8:32-9:12
4. The warning about the foolish woman	9:13-18
<b>III. Proverbs comparing the fear of God and the folly of sin</b>	<b>10:1-24:34</b>
A. Proverbs contrasting righteousness and wickedness	10:1-15:33
B. Proverbs to encourage godly living	16:1-22:16
C. Proverbs to deal with specific practices	22:17-23:35
D. Proverbs to guide your daily life	24:1-24

<b>IV. Proverbs of Solomon copied by the men of Hezekiah</b>	<b>25:1-29:27</b>
A. Proverbs about relationships with others	25:1-26:28
1. Healthy relationships with kings	25:1-7
2. Healthy relationships with neighbors	25:8-20
3. Healthy relationships with enemies	25:21-24
4. Healthy inner relationships	25:25-26:2
5. Healthy actions when around fools	26:3-12
6. Healthy relationships when around the lazy	26:13-16
7. Healthy relationships when around evil speakers	26:17-28
B. Proverbs about wise actions in life	27:1-29:27
1. Wise actions in your personal life	27:1-27
2. Wise actions in relation to the law	28:1-10
3. Wise actions in relation to the rich and the poor	28:11-28
4. Wise actions and foolish actions	29:1-27
<b>V. Proverbs written by other men</b>	<b>30:1-31:31</b>
A. Proverbs of Agur	30:1-33
1. Proverbs for personal living	30:1-14
2. Proverbs to be learned from various groups	30:15-33
B. Proverbs of Lemuel	31:1-9
1. Proverbs to warn wise sons	31:1-5
2. Proverbs to show why people want strong drink	31:6-7
3. Proverbs about the need to speak for the needy	31:8-9
C. Proverbs on the excellent wife (writer uncertain)	31:10-31

## **People in Proverbs**

## Proverbs

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

#### A. The writer of the book - 1:1

**Solomon was the writer of the book**  
**Solomon was the son of David**  
**Solomon was the king of Israel**

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

**Solomon wanted others to know wisdom and instruction**

The Lord is the source of godly wisdom - Prov. 2:6

We want wisdom to enter our hearts - Prov. 2:10

**Solomon wanted others to discern the words of understanding**

We are not to depend on our own understanding - Prov. 3:5

Understanding will keep us from the ways of the foolish - Prov. 9:6

**Solomon wanted others to receive instruction in wise behavior**

The Lord will cause us to grow through His discipline - Prov. 3:11

**Solomon wanted others to understand righteousness, justice and equity**

**Solomon wanted to give prudence to the simple (naive)**

The Lord wants the simple to understand wisdom - Prov. 8:5

**Solomon wanted to give knowledge and discretion to the youth**

The Lord wants the young to have knowledge and purpose - Prov. 3:21

**Solomon said a wise man will hear and increase learning**

Wisdom will cause a person to grow in understanding - Prov. 2:8

**Solomon said a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel**

There is safety in a multitude of counselors - Prov. 11:14

**Solomon said a wise man would understand a proverb and a figure**

Wisdom will cause a man to understand a parable - Mark 4:13-14

**Solomon said a wise man would understand the wise and their riddles**

Wisdom will help a man understand and answer hard questions - I Kings 10:1

#### C. The foundation for all wisdom - 1:7

**Solomon said the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge**

Fear of God means reverence and respect - Prov. 8:5

Fear of man causes terror - Ps. 55:3-5

**Solomon said fools despise wisdom and instruction**

A fool is one who leaves God out of his thinking - Ps. 14:1; 53:1

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

### A. The encouragement to avoid evil people - 1:8-19

#### 1. Sinners will try to entice you to join them - 1:8-13

##### a. The young are encouraged to listen to their parents - 1:8-9

**The young are encouraged to hear the instruction of their father**

To hear so that there is understanding and obedience - Prov. 1:5; 1:33; 4:1

**The young are encouraged not to forsake the law of their mother**

To forsake means to reject or to turn away - Prov. 6:20-21

**The young will find this instruction like a graceful ornament**

A wreath or ornament of grace and speaks of the inner spiritual life - Prov. 4:9

**The young will find this instruction like chains around the neck**

A necklace around the neck that has great value - Jdg. 8:26

##### b. The young may face enticements to join evil - 1:10-12

**The young are warned of the enticements of sinners**

To entice means to deceive or to catch by bait - James 1:14

**The young are warned not to consent to sinners**

Do not be willing to join sinners involved in evil - Prov. 1:30

**The young are warned they will be invited to join in evil**

This may produce worldly gain but eternal judgment - Mark 8:36-37

**The young are warned they may be invited to shed blood**

This would be for the purpose of destroying others - Prov. 1:18

This would be ambushing for sin and self gain - Prov. 7:12; 12:6

**The young are warned they may be invited to lurk without cause**

This would be hiding and waiting for an evil reason - Prov. 1:18

**The young are encouraged to help destroy the lives of others**

To swallow down or destroy the lives of others - Prov. 19:28

**The young may be encouraged to bring others down to the Pit**

This may cause them to flee until judgment comes - Prov. 28:17

##### c. The young may be offered spoil by the evil - 1:13

**The young are told that they will gain all kinds of wealth**

Those with an evil heart will find no good - Prov. 17:20

**The young are told they will fill their houses with spoil**

They are told they will fill their houses with plunder - Prov. 16:19

## 2. Sinners will lead you into a trap - 1:14-19

### a. The young may be invited to join with the evil - 1:14

#### **The young are invited to join with the evil**

We are warned against even entering the path of the wicked - Prov. 4:14

#### **The young are promised they will share the rewards of evil**

The rewards of the wicked destroy - Prov. 11:5

Those who trust in riches will fall - Prov. 11:28

### b. The young are warned to run from evil - 1:15-16

#### **The young are warned not to walk with the evil**

We are promised blessing if we do not walk with the evil - Ps. 1:1-3

#### **The young are warned to keep their feet from the path of the evil**

We are warned not to enter the path of the wicked - Prov. 4:14

#### **The young are told the feet of the evil run to evil**

We are to depart from those who practice evil - Ps. 119:115

#### **The young are told that the evil are quick to shed blood**

The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood - Prov. 12:6

God hates those who shed innocent blood - Prov. 6:17

The bloodthirsty hate the blameless - Prov. 29:10

### c. The young are warned to avoid worldly traps - 1:17-18

#### **The young are reminded how nets are spread for birds**

The evil are trapped by their own traps - Prov. 1:19

#### **The young are reminded that nets are traps for the birds**

The Lord hates those who are quick to do evil - Prov. 6:18

#### **The young are warned that the evil lie in wait for their own blood**

The way that seems right to man is actually the way of death - Prov. 16:25

#### **The young are warned that their own lives will be trapped**

They store up death for their own lives - Prov. 5:22

### d. The young are warned that greed destroys - 1:19

#### **The young are warned that greed is very destructive**

The love of money is a root of all sorts of evil - I Tim. 6:10

#### **The young are warned that greed will destroy their lives**

Those who love riches get caught by a trap which destroys - I Tim. 6:9

The final result of sin will be death and judgment - James 1:15

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

**1. The way of wisdom is not chosen by many - 1:20-27**

**a. The young are invited to listen to godly wisdom - 1:20-21**

**Wisdom can be heard in the streets by all who listen  
Wisdom lifts up her voice in the town square  
Wisdom cries out in the noisy streets  
Wisdom is given at the gates of the city**

**b. The young are told the rewards of listening - 1:22-23**

**The simple love their ignorance  
The simple believe everything they hear - Prov. 9:15  
The scoffers delight in their scoffing  
The boasters delight in their boasting - Prov. 21:24  
The fools hate knowledge  
The fools do not want to depart from evil - Prov. 13:19  
The young are invited to turn to the reproof of wisdom  
God gives wisdom without reproach - James 1:5-8  
The young are promised God's Spirit to guide them  
The Spirit will teach us all things - John 14:26  
The young are promised that God's Word can become known to them  
The Spirit reveals the things of God to us - I Cor. 2:12-13**

**c. The young often refuse to listen to warnings - 1:24-25**

**Wisdom called but the foolish refused to listen  
Shame comes to those who refuse wisdom - Prov. 13:18; 15:32  
Wisdom reached out to the foolish but they ignored it  
Wisdom provided wise counsel but they neglected it  
Wisdom gave warnings but they did not want wisdom**

**d. The young who fail to listen will experience judgment - 1:26-27**

**Wisdom will laugh when their distress comes  
Wisdom will mock when their dread comes  
Wisdom knows ruin will come like a storm  
Wisdom knows that dread will come like a whirlwind  
Wisdom knows this will bring distress and anguish**

## 2. The way of wisdom protects a person from self destruction - 1:28-33

### a. The foolish reject knowledge and counsel - 1:28-30

**The foolish will wait too long to call to God and He will not answer**

The foolish will call when judgment comes - Luke 16:22-24

**The foolish will try to seek God but will not find Him**

Those who diligently seek the Lord will find Him - Prov. 8:17

The foolish seek the Lord for the wrong purpose - James 4:3

**The foolish hate knowledge**

The foolish scoff and hate knowledge - Prov. 1:22

**The foolish did not choose the fear of the Lord**

The fear of the Lord causes one to hate evil - Prov. 8:25

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

The fear of the Lord protects one from evil - Prov. 19:23

**The foolish would not listen to wise counsel**

The foolish neglect wise counsel - Prov. 1:25

**The foolish would not listen to any rebuke**

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes - Prov. 12:15

Those who receive counsel can become wise - Prov. 19:20

### b. The foolish will be destroyed by their own choices - 1:31-32

**The foolish will reap the fruit of their own choices**

People reap what they sow when they sow to the flesh - Gal. 6:7-8

God will give them up to their own choices - Rom. 1:24-28

**The foolish will be filled with their own deceptions**

They often deceive themselves - Gal. 6:3

**The foolish will be slain by their turning away from wisdom**

Many strong men have been slain by their foolishness - Prov. 7:26

**The foolish will be destroyed by their complacency**

People are destroyed by their own wickedness - Jer. 2:19

### c. The wise will be protected from such destruction - 1:33

**The wise who listen will live in safety**

The wise are instructed by the Lord - Ps. 25:12

**The wise will be secure**

The wise walk in integrity - Prov. 10:9

**The wise will live without fear of evil**

The wise can sleep in peace - Prov. 3:24-26

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

**1. The way of wisdom comes from the Lord - 2:1-8**

**a. Wisdom is given to those who receive the words of the Lord - 2:1-2**

**Solomon invited his son to receive his words**  
**Solomon invited his son to treasure his commands**  
**Solomon invited his son to incline his ear to wisdom**  
**Solomon invited his son to apply his heart to understanding**

**b. Wisdom is given to those who want discernment and understanding - 2:3-4**

**Solomon invited his son to cry out for discernment**  
Discernment between good and evil that leads to understanding - I Kings 3:9  
**Solomon invited his son to cry out for understanding**  
A man of understanding walks uprightly - Prov. 15:21  
**Solomon invited his son to seek wisdom as silver**  
Wisdom has more profit than silver, gold or jewels - Prov. 3:14-15  
**Solomon invited his son to seek wisdom as hidden treasure**

**c. Wisdom has its source in the Lord - 2:5-6**

**Solomon told his son that then he would understand the fear of the Lord**  
**Solomon said that then he would find the knowledge of God**  
Wisdom gives us a greater understanding of God - Ps. 119:97-100  
**Solomon said that the Lord is the One who gives wisdom**  
We are to let wisdom enter into our hearts - Prov. 2:10  
Out of our hearts are the springs of life - Prov. 4:23  
**Solomon said that wisdom and understanding come from the Lord**  
The Lord is the One who gave Solomon wisdom - I Kings 3:9-12  
We are to ask God to give us His wisdom by faith - James 1:5-8

**d. Wisdom is given to those who walk uprightly - 2:7-8**

**Solomon said the Lord stores up wisdom for the upright**  
The proverbs of Solomon became a part of Scripture - II. Pet. 1:19-21  
**Solomon said the Lord is a shield to those who walk uprightly**  
We received the righteousness of Christ at salvation - II Cor. 5:21  
**Solomon said that the Lord guards the paths of justice**  
**Solomon said the Lord preserves the way of His saints**

## **2. The way of wisdom protects your heart from the ways of evil - 2:9-15**

### **a. Wisdom enters into the heart - 2:9-10**

**Solomon told his son that wisdom would cause him to know righteousness**

**Solomon told his son that wisdom would cause him to know justice**

**Solomon told his son that wisdom would cause him to know equity**

**Solomon told his son that wisdom would cause him to know every good path**

Solomon had taught his son to walk in the right paths - Prov. 4:11

Solomon encouraged his son to ponder the path of his feet - Prov. 4:25

**Solomon told his son that wisdom would enter his heart**

Out of the heart are the issues of life - Prov. 4:23

**Solomon told his son that knowledge would be pleasant to his soul**

Understanding is delightful to the mind and emotions - Psalm 141:6

### **b. Wisdom delivers us from the evil man - 2:11-12**

**Solomon told his son discretion would preserve him**

Discretion (purpose) gives life to your soul - Prov. 3:21

**Solomon told his son that understanding would guard him from danger**

This is the result of seeking understanding from the Lord - Prov. 3:5

**Solomon told his son wisdom would deliver him from the way of evil**

Solomon did not want his son to walk in the way of evil - Prov. 4:14

**Solomon said wisdom would deliver from the men who speak perverse things**

Solomon said the wicked speak perverse things - Prov. 10:32

### **c. Wisdom delivers us from those walking in darkness - 2:13**

**Solomon said wisdom would preserve from those who leave uprightness**

**Solomon said wisdom would preserve from those who walk in darkness**

### **d. Wisdom delivers us from those who practice evil - 2:14-15**

**Solomon said wisdom would protect from those who do evil**

They are many who run to do evil to others - Prov. 1:16; 4:14; 6:14

**Solomon said wisdom would protect from the perversity of the wicked**

Perversity deals with sins of the heart and mouth - Prov. 6:14; 10:31-32

**Solomon said wisdom would protect from the ways of the crooked**

These are people with a twisted or distorted heart - Prov. 11:20; 17:20

**Solomon said wisdom would protect from those devious in their paths**

They turn aside from the right paths of the Lord - Prov. 14:2

### 3. The way of wisdom protects you from the path of the adulteress - 2:16-22

#### a. Wisdom delivers us from the immoral person - 2:16-17

**Solomon said wisdom protects from the immoral person**

A stranger or unrelated person - Prov. 5:3, 10, 17, 20; 7:5; 22:14

**Solomon said wisdom protects from the seductress who flatters**

To speak with a divided heart - Prov. 7:2; 28:23; 29:5; Hosea 10:2

**Solomon said wisdom protects from the one who has forsaken God**

Companion speaks of close friends - Prov. 16:28; 17:9

**Solomon said wisdom protects from those who forget God's covenant**

To forget, especially God and His covenant - Deut. 8:11-14; Prov. 31:5-7

#### b. Wisdom protects from the one whose way leads to death - 2:18-19

**Solomon said the path of the immoral person leads to death**

One cause of death is a lack of instruction - Prov. 5:23

Another cause of death is willful rebellion - Prov. 29:1

**Solomon said her house leads to death**

Either cause leads to death - Ps. 44:25

**Solomon said that her paths lead to the dead**

**Solomon said those who follow her do not return**

They do return to the paths of life - Deut. 28:45

**Solomon said those who follow her do not regain the paths of life**

#### c. Wisdom causes us to walk in the way of the upright - 2:20-21

**Solomon encouraged his son to walk in the way of goodness**

**Solomon encouraged his son to keep to the paths of righteousness**

**Solomon told his son the upright will live in the land**

The righteous who follow God's ways - Prov. 11:3-5; 14:9-11

**Solomon said the blameless will remain in the land**

Those who are complete, upright or blameless - Prov. 11:5; 28:18

#### d. Wisdom protects us from eternal judgment - 2:22

**Solomon said the wicked would be cut off from the earth**

To cut off a part of the body or to kill - Prov. 10:31; 12:6

**Solomon said the unfaithful will be uprooted from the earth**

To uproot or to destroy - Deut. 28:63; Ps. 52:5; Prov. 15:25

## **D. The encouragement to trust in the Lord - 3:1-12**

### **1. Wisdom will guide your heart - 3:1-6**

#### **a. The Lord will help you to experience peace - 3:1-2**

##### **Solomon encouraged his son not to forget his teaching**

He told his son to keep his commandments in his heart - Prov. 6:20-21; 7:2-3

##### **Solomon encouraged his son to keep his commandments from the heart**

The heart is the inner person or inner man - Prov. 4:4

Out of the heart are the issues of life - Prov. 4:23

We are to hide the Word of God in our hearts - Ps. 119:11

##### **Solomon said the commandments would lengthen his days**

Obedience to the Word of God gives longer life - Prov. 4:10

##### **Solomon said they would give peace in his life**

The peace of God guards our hearts and minds - Phil. 4:7

#### **b. The Lord will lead you to practice kindness and truth - 3:3-4**

##### **Solomon encouraged his son not to let kindness leave him**

Kindness is one of the characteristics of love - I Cor. 13:4

##### **Solomon encouraged his son not to let truth leave him**

We are to speak the truth in love as we grow in Christ - Eph. 4:15

##### **Solomon encouraged his son to let those things control his actions**

The Spirit gives us strength from the heart to live a godly life - II Cor. 3:3

##### **Solomon encouraged his son to let those things control his heart**

The heart of man without the Lord is desperately wicked - Jer. 17:9

The Lord promised Israel He would give them a new heart - Ezek. 36:25-26

We are given salvation when we believe with the heart - Rom. 10:9-10

#### **c. The Lord will lead you as you trust in Him - 3:5-6**

##### **Solomon encouraged his son to trust the Lord with all of his heart**

This will cause the Lord to give us the desires of our heart - Ps. 37:3-5

##### **Solomon encouraged his son not to depend on his own understanding**

We must depend on the Lord for true understanding - Jer. 9:23-24

The knowledge of wisdom is like honey to the soul - Prov. 24:13

##### **Solomon encouraged his son to always recognize the Lord**

Solomon wanted his son to know and trust the Lord - Prov. 22:19-21

##### **Solomon said the Lord would make his paths straight**

The Lord leads us to walk in righteousness - Prov. 11:5; 15:21

## **2. Wisdom is the result of godly discipline - 3:7-12**

### **a. The Lord will give both spiritual and physical life - 3:7-8**

**Solomon encouraged his son not to depend on his own ways**

We are not to be wise in our own opinions - Rom. 12:16

We are to keep the Word of God as the apple of our eyes - Prov. 7:2

**Solomon encouraged his son to fear the Lord**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge - Prov. 1:7

**Solomon encouraged his son to turn away from evil**

Solomon said to turn away from evil - Prov. 4:27

We are to depart from the snares of death - Prov. 13:14

By the fear of the Lord men depart from evil - Prov. 16:6

**Solomon said that would bring healing to his body**

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

**Solomon said that would bring strength to his bones**

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

### **b. The Lord should be first in your giving - 3:9-10**

**Solomon encouraged his son to honor the Lord with his substance**

The substance of a diligent man is precious - Prov. 12:27

We are to rejoice in the Lord more than in our substance - Ps. 119:13

**Solomon encouraged his son to honor the Lord with the best of his produce**

**Solomon said that then the Lord will fill his barns with plenty**

**Solomon said the Lord would overflow his vats with new wine**

### **c. The Lord disciplines you to help you become strong - 3:11-12**

**Solomon encouraged his son not to reject the discipline of the Lord**

The Father disciplines us for our profit - Heb. 12:10

**Solomon encouraged his son not to dread the rebuke of the Lord**

Reproofs of instruction are the way of life - Prov. 6:23

**Solomon said that the Lord loves those that He corrects**

A wise man appreciates correction - Prov. 9:8

The Lord disciplines us for our own good - Heb. 12:3-11

**Solomon said the Lord was like a father**

Godly fathers provide an example and encouragement - I Thess. 2:10-12

**Solomon said that the Lord delights in his sons**

Godly fathers warn but do not shame - I Cor. 4:14

Godly fathers provide an example to imitate - II Cor. 4:16; 11:1

## **E. The encouragement to understand the value of wisdom - 3:13-18**

### **1. Wisdom has great value in the life of all who get it - 3:13**

#### **A man is blessed who finds wisdom**

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

Wisdom is the one thing we should seek in life - Prov. 4:7

Such a man causes blessing for his children - Prov. 20:7

#### **A man is blessed who gains understanding**

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

Such a person is able to speak with wisdom - Prov. 10:13

Wisdom is in the heart of the understanding - Prov. 14:33

### **2. Wisdom has greater value than silver, gold or jewels - 3:14-15**

#### **Wisdom has greater profit than silver**

Wisdom is much better than riches - Prov. 8:11

#### **Wisdom is a greater gain than gold**

Wisdom is of much greater value than gold - Prov. 16:16

#### **Wisdom is more precious than jewels**

Wisdom is better than rubies - Prov. 8:11

**Wisdom has nothing that can compare with her**

### **3. Wisdom gives long life and peace - 3:16-17**

#### **Wisdom gives long life**

Obedience to God often gives long life - Prov. 3:2

#### **Wisdom will give spiritual riches**

Wisdom bears the lasting fruit of righteousness - Prov. 8:18

#### **Wisdom will give honor to those who follow her**

Wisdom that enters the heart will preserve us - Prov. 2:10-11

#### **Wisdom has ways that are pleasant ways**

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

Pleasant words also bring physical health - Prov. 16:24

**Wisdom provides paths of peace**

### **4. Wisdom is like a tree of life - 3:18**

#### **Wisdom will be like a tree of life to those who hold her**

We can become like a fruitful tree by meditation - Ps. 1:1-3; Prov. 11:29

**Wisdom will bring happiness to those who hold her fast**

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

### **1. Wisdom was shown when the Lord made the creation - 3:19-20**

**The Lord created the earth by His wisdom**

The Lord was the One who established the earth - Ps. 89:11

**The Lord established the heavens by His understanding**

The Lord created the earth and the heavens - Is. 48:13

**The Lord breaks up the deeps by His knowledge**

**The Lord provides the dew by his knowledge**

### **2. Wisdom will keep you from stumbling - 3:21-23**

**Solomon encouraged his son to keep his eyes on wisdom**

**Solomon encouraged his son to keep sound wisdom**

Solomon taught his son in the way of wisdom - Prov. 4:11

**Solomon encouraged his son to have discretion**

**Solomon told his son they would be life to his soul**

This talks about his inner spiritual life - Prov. 4:20-22

**Solomon told his son they would guide his actions**

This talks about his actions which are seen by others

**Solomon told his son they would help him walk securely**

Solomon told his son to let his ways be established - Prov. 4:25

**Solomon told his son they would keep him from stumbling**

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

### **3. Wisdom will protect you from fear - 3:24-25**

**Solomon told his son he would not be afraid when he laid down**

**Solomon told his son they would give him rest at night**

The way of righteousness is life and takes away fear - Prov. 12:28

**Solomon told his son to not be afraid of sudden fear**

**Solomon told his son not to be afraid of trouble from the wicked**

The Lord brings peace to those who follow His ways - Prov. 16:7

### **4. Wisdom will cause the Lord to be your confidence - 3:26**

**Solomon told his son the Lord would be his confidence**

We can have confidence as we obey His commandments - Ps. 78:4-7

**Solomon told his son the Lord would keep his foot from getting caught**

Those who keep understanding will find good - Prov. 19:8

## **G. The encouragement to show kindness to others - 3:27-35**

### **1. Wisdom will show you how to show kindness to others - 3:27-29**

**Solomon encouraged his son to do good to those for whom it is due**

**Solomon encouraged his son to do good whenever he could**

We are to look for opportunities to do good to all - Gal. 6:10

**Solomon encouraged his son not to avoid helping a neighbor today**

Our neighbor is anyone with a need - Luke 10:29-37

**Solomon encouraged his son to do good today if that is possible**

**Solomon encouraged his son not to devise evil against a neighbor**

To plan evil in the heart against your neighbor - Prov. 6:18; 12:20

**Solomon encouraged his son to protect the security of his neighbor**

### **2. Wisdom will show you how to avoid much conflict - 3:30-32**

**Solomon encouraged his son not to argue without a cause**

**Solomon said not to argue with someone who has done you no harm**

**Solomon encouraged his son not to envy a man of violence**

Envy is a strong desire for what someone else has - Prov. 23:17; 24:1, 19

**Solomon encouraged his son not to choose the ways of a man of violence**

Do not choose to walk in his path and learn his ways - Ps. 1:1

**Solomon told his son that a crooked man is an abomination to the Lord**

An abomination is something that the Lord hates - Prov. 6:16-19

**Solomon told his son that the Lord is intimate with the upright**

The Lord shares His counsel with the upright - Prov. 15:22; John 15:15

### **3. Wisdom will help you to contrast good and evil - 3:33-35**

**Solomon said the curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked**

God will hide us from the counsel of the wicked - Ps. 64:2

**Solomon said the blessing of the Lord is on the house of the righteous**

God blesses His children with wise counsel - Prov. 15:22

**Solomon said that the Lord scoffs at scoffers**

Scoffers will not listen to rebuke - Prov. 13:1; 15:12

**Solomon said the Lord gives grace to the afflicted**

Affliction develops a humble spirit - Prov. 16:9

**Solomon said the wise will inherit glory**

**Solomon said that fools display dishonor**

Wisdom is too high for a fool - Prov. 24:7

The fools says in his heart that there is no God - Ps. 14:1

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

### 1. Solomon shared wisdom with his son - 4:1-2

**Solomon encouraged his son to receive his instruction**

This included receiving instruction with discipline - Prov. 6:23; 10:17

**Solomon encouraged his son to pay attention**

To pay close attention and obey - Prov. 2:2; 4:20-21

**Solomon said that he would gain understanding**

We are not to lean on our own understanding - Prov. 3:5

Seek understanding like a close family member - Prov. 7:3

**Solomon said that he would give sound teaching**

**Solomon encouraged his son not to abandon that teaching**

### 2. Solomon received wisdom from his father - 4:3-4

**Solomon reminded his son of his own father**

The Lord said David was a man after His own heart - Acts 13:22

**Solomon reminded his son of his own mother**

Solomon had been loved by the Lord - II Sam. 12:24

**Solomon said that his father had taught him**

Solomon asked the Lord to give him wisdom - II Chron. 1:9-10

**Solomon said his father told him to hold fast to his words**

**Solomon said his father told him to keep his commandments and live**

### 3. Solomon encouraged his son to seek wisdom - 4:5-9

**Solomon said to get wisdom and understanding**

The knowledge of the holy is understanding - Prov. 9:6, 10

**Solomon said not to forget or turn away from wisdom**

**Solomon said wisdom would be a guard to him**

**Solomon said wisdom would watch over him**

**Solomon said to get understanding with his wisdom**

Wisdom and understanding guard a person - Prov. 19:8

**Solomon said to prize wisdom and she would exalt him**

**Solomon said to embrace wisdom and she would honor him**

Wisdom and correction bring honor - Prov. 13:18

**Solomon said to think on wisdom and she would be an ornament of grace**

Wisdom is like an ornament of grace (wreath of favor) - Prov. 1:9

**Solomon said wisdom would provide a crown of glory**

This is an eternal crown for godly leaders - I Pet. 5:4

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

### **1. Solomon said he had led his son in right paths - 4:10-11**

**Solomon encouraged his son to receive his sayings**  
**Solomon said that would help him to have a long life**  
**Solomon said that he had taught his son the way of wisdom**  
We are to teach throughout the day - Deut. 6:4-9  
**Solomon said that he had led his son in right paths**  
Training is showing people by our example - I Cor. 11:1; Prov. 22:6

### **2. Solomon encouraged his son to take firm hold of instruction - 4:12-13**

**Solomon said that his son would not be hindered as he walked**  
**Solomon said that his son would not stumble when he ran**  
**Solomon told his son to take firm hold of instruction**  
**Solomon told his son not to let instruction go**

### **3. Solomon said the wicked want to make others fall - 4:14-17**

**Solomon encouraged his son not to enter the path of the wicked**  
**Solomon said not to walk in the way of evil**  
**Solomon said to avoid traveling on that path**  
**Solomon said to turn away from that path and pass by it**  
**Solomon said the evil do not sleep unless they have done evil**  
We are not to burn with anger because men are evil - Prov. 24:19  
(we are to love the sinner even though we hate the sin)  
**Solomon said they do not sleep unless they make someone fall**  
The evil want to cause others to stumble into sin - Jer. 18:15  
**Solomon said that they eat the bread of wickedness**  
The wicked fall into evil but we are not to rejoice- Prov. 24:16-17  
**Solomon said that they drink the wine of violence**

### **4. Solomon said there is a path of light and a path of darkness - 4:18-19**

**Solomon said the path of the just is like the shining sun**  
**Solomon said that the light continues to get brighter**  
We are to walk in the light as Christ does - I John 1:7  
**Solomon said the way of the evil is darkness**  
Men love darkness because their deeds are evil - John 3:19  
**Solomon said the evil do not know what makes them stumble**

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

### **1. Solomon encouraged his son to keep his word in his heart - 4:20-22**

**Solomon encouraged his son to give attention to his words**

To give close attention so that there is obedience - Prov. 2:1-2

**Solomon said to listen to his sayings**

To stretch out the ear to hear clearly - Prov. 22:17

**Solomon said not to let them depart from his eyes**

Do not let them slip out of your thoughts - Prov. 3:21-22

**Solomon said not to let them depart from his heart**

Let these words guide your inner being - Prov. 8:19

**Solomon said his words were life to those who found them**

These words will bring life to those who follow them - Prov. 19:8

**Solomon said his words would bring healing to his son**

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

### **2. Solomon encouraged his son to keep his heart with all diligence - 4:23-25**

**Solomon said to keep his heart with all diligence**

Guard your heart with all diligence - Neh. 4:9

**Solomon said the issues of life come from the heart**

Our personal boundaries come from our heart - I Chron. 5:16

**Solomon said to put away deceit from his mouth**

Depart from a crooked mouth - Prov. 6:12

**Solomon said to keep perverse lips far from him**

In fact put crooked words far from you - Prov. 30:8

**Solomon said to keep his eyes looking straight ahead**

Let your eyes look in front of you - Prov. 5:21

**Solomon said to look at those things that were right**

### **3. Solomon encouraged his son to ponder the path of his feet - 4:26-27**

**Solomon said to ponder the path of his feet**

Make smooth the path that you are taking - Is. 26:7

**Solomon said to let his ways be established**

Established means to be stable or firm - Prov. 16:3

**Solomon said not to turn to the right or left**

The way of life comes from above - Prov. 14:26; 15:24

**Solomon said to remove his foot from evil**

To turn aside or to depart from evil - Prov. 16:17

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

**1. The adulteress is often driven by bitterness - 5:1-6**

**a. Solomon wanted to protect his son from the adulteress - 5:1-2**

**Solomon said to pay attention to his wisdom**

To pay close attention so that there is obedience - Prov. 7:24

**Solomon said to lend his ear to Solomon's understanding**

Understanding makes it possible to walk uprightly - Prov. 15:21

**Solomon said that way he would preserve discretion**

Discretion means to act on a good purpose - Prov. 1:4

**Solomon said that way his lips would keep knowledge**

Guard his lips so that they shared knowledge - Prov. 4:23

**b. Solomon said the lips of an adulteress are smooth - 5:3**

**Solomon said the lips of an immoral woman drip honey**

Her lips speak words like flowing honey - Prov. 7:11

**Solomon said that her mouth was smoother than oil**

Her words are smooth and flattering - Prov. 7:5

**c. Solomon said the heart of an adulteress is like a sharp sword - 5:4**

**Solomon said that she is actually as bitter as wormwood**

Her heart is actually like wormwood - Lam. 3:15, 19

Wormwood speaks of bitterness and great pain - Deut. 29:18

**Solomon said she is sharp like a two-edged sword**

Her mouth speaks from that bitterness - Ps. 57:4

**d. Solomon said that her ways lead to death - 5:5-6**

**Solomon said that her feet go down to hell**

She is traveling toward eternal judgment - Prov. 2:18-19

**Solomon said that her steps seize hell**

Her steps lead a person to hell - Prov. 6:26; 7:27

**Solomon said to weigh carefully her path of life**

Weigh carefully where her way will lead - Prov. 4:26

**Solomon said that her ways are unstable**

Her ways cause her to stumble and wander - Amos 8:11-12

**Solomon said that his son did not know those ways**

**2. The adulteress will bring many to total ruin - 5:7-14**

**a. Solomon told his children to hear him - 5:7-8**

**Solomon asked his children to listen to him**  
**Solomon asked them not to depart from his words**  
**Solomon said to stay far away from the immoral woman**  
Solomon warned that such women look for victims - Prov. 7:9-11  
**Solomon said not to go near the door of her house**  
Solomon had seen what happened to others - Prov. 7:7-8

**b. Solomon said they would give their honor to others - 5:9**

**Solomon said that would give their honor to others**  
Honor is usually used of God but occasionally men - Num. 27:20  
Elders who rule well are to receive double honor - I Tim. 5:17  
**Solomon said they would give their years to the cruel one**  
Stoning was the penalty for adultery under the Law - Deut. 22:22  
In Solomon's time a man could be sold into slavery instead - Prov. 6:29-35

**c. Solomon said they would give their possessions to others - 5:10**

**Solomon said that their wealth would go to others**  
**Solomon said their work would go to a foreigner**  
This word was also used for a prostitute - Prov. 5:20

**d. Solomon explained the final consequences to his children - 5:11-12**

**Solomon said that they would mourn at the last**  
**Solomon said that their flesh and body would be consumed**  
Many diseases are the result of immorality - I Cor. 6:18  
**Solomon said they would say that they had hated instruction**  
Here we see the long term consequences of sin - Prov. 22:14  
**Solomon said they would see their heart despised instruction**

**e. Solomon said their end would be total ruin - 5:13-14**

**Solomon said they would realize they did not obey their teachers**  
**Solomon said they had not opened their hearing for instruction**  
**Solomon said they would realize they were on the verge of total ruin**  
**Solomon said they would be disgraced among the people**

**3. The adulteress cannot compare with a loving wife - 5:15-23**

**a. Solomon said to drink water from their own source - 5:15-17**

**Solomon said to drink water from your own cistern**

**Solomon said to drink running water out of your own well**

A wife is compared to a well of living water - Song of S. 4:15

An immoral woman is compared to a deep pit - Prov. 23:27

**Solomon said not to disperse your fountains abroad**

**Solomon said not to send streams out into the streets**

**Solomon said our fountain gives personal enjoyment**

**Solomon said it was not to be given to others**

**b. Solomon said to rejoice in the wife of their youth - 5:18-19**

**Solomon said to let our own fountain be blessed**

**Solomon said to rejoice in the wife of our youth**

This has been the plan of God from the beginning - Gen. 2:24

**Solomon said she is like a loving deer**

**Solomon said she is like a graceful doe**

**Solomon said let her breasts satisfy at all times**

**Solomon said to be enraptured with her love**

**c. Solomon warned of the danger of the immoral woman - 5:20**

**Solomon said not to be enraptured with an immoral woman**

**Solomon said not to be embraced by a seductress**

**d. Solomon said that the Lord knew their paths - 5:21**

**Solomon said the Lord knows the ways of man**

**Solomon said all men should ponder their path**

God wants all men to weigh their decisions - Prov. 4:26

**e. Solomon said evil traps a person and leads to death - 5:22-23**

**Solomon said iniquities entrap a wicked man**

**Solomon said a man gets caught in the cords of sin**

**Solomon said the result of not listening will be death**

**Solomon said such a person has gone astray through folly**

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

### 1. Solomon explained the danger of another's debt - 6:1-2

#### **Solomon said not to become responsible for the debt of a friend**

This debt is the responsibility of that friend - Prov. 17:18

Solomon said this happens with those void of understanding - Prov. 17:18

#### **Solomon said not to become responsible for the debt of a stranger**

This debt is the responsibility of someone you do not even know - Prov. 11:15

Such actions may mean you pay the debt - Prov. 20:16

#### **Solomon said that you become trapped by your own words**

We will trap ourselves by our own promises - Prov. 22:26-27

(it may even cost you your bed)

#### **Solomon said you are caught by the words of your mouth**

Our actions can become traps if we do not think first - Ps. 141:9

### 2. Solomon told his son to humble himself and deliver himself - 6:3

#### **Solomon encouraged his son to rescue himself**

We are to speak so that we can deliver ourselves - Prov. 12:6

#### **Solomon said he is now under the control of his friend**

Friends frequently includes neighbors - Prov. 14:20-21

These may be people seeking your money - Prov. 19:4

#### **Solomon told his son to humble himself**

Deliver yourself from your adversary - Matt. 5:25

#### **Solomon said to go and plead with his friend**

The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them - Prov. 11:4

### 3. Solomon said to take action immediately - 6:4

#### **Solomon said to go to the friend before he even went to bed**

Delayed action can bring negative results - Prov. 6:10-11

#### **Solomon said do not even take time for a nap**

### 4. Solomon warned of the debt collector - 6:5

#### **Solomon told him to deliver himself like a gazelle**

The mouth of the upright shall deliver them - Prov. 12:6

#### **Solomon said to deliver himself from the hand of the hunter**

#### **Solomon said to deliver himself like a bird from a fowler**

The debt of another is like a net that traps a bird - Prov. 1:17

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

### **1. The description of the good example of the ant - 6:6-11**

#### **a. Solomon said that the ways of the ant can teach wisdom - 6:6**

**Solomon told the sluggard to go and learn from the ant**

A sluggard is a lazy person - Prov. 6:9-11; 19:24

**Solomon told the sluggard to consider the ways of the ant**

The sluggard does not consider where his ways will lead him - Prov. 16:25

**Solomon told the sluggard to become wise by observing the ant**

The sluggard is often filled with pride - Prov. 26:16

#### **b. Solomon said that the ant plans for the future - 6:7-8**

**Solomon said that the ants have no captain**

**Solomon said that the ants have no overseer**

**Solomon said that the ants have no ruler**

**Solomon said that the ants provide their supplies in summer**

The ants prepare their food in the summer - Prov. 30:25

**Solomon said the ants gather their food during the harvest**

#### **c. Solomon said that the sluggard does not plan ahead - 6:9-10**

**Solomon asked the sluggard how long he would keep sleeping**

**Solomon asked the sluggard when he would rise from his sleep**

A sluggard does not take care of the work in his fields - Prov. 24:30

**Solomon said the sluggard just wanted a little sleep**

**Solomon said the sluggard just wanted to sleep**

The sluggard just rolls over in his bed - Prov. 26:14

**Solomon said the sluggard just wanted to sit with his hands folded**

A sluggard always has an excuse not to work - Prov. 22:13

#### **d. Solomon said that the sluggard would end up in poverty - 6:11**

**Solomon told the sluggard that poverty would come to his life**

The sluggard ends up having a life of poverty - Prov. 13:4

**Solomon said the sluggard would be like one who wanders around**

The sluggard refuses to work and so he covets all day long - Prov. 21:25

**Solomon said need would come to him like an armed man**

The sluggard will have nothing and have to beg - Prov. 20:4

## 2. The description of a wicked person - 6:12-19

### a. The wicked shows by his actions he is not telling the truth - 6:12-13

**Solomon warned about a worthless person**  
**Solomon warned about a wicked person**  
**Solomon said such a person walks with a perverse mouth**  
**Solomon said such a person winks with his eyes**  
**Solomon said such a person shuffles with his feet**  
**Solomon said such a person points with his fingers**

### b. The wicked is filled with evil in his heart - 6:14-15

**Solomon said such a person has perversity in his heart**  
**Solomon said such a person devises evil continually**  
Such a person will be destroyed suddenly - Prov. 29:1  
**Solomon said such a person sows discord (contention)**

### c. Solomon said the Lord hates seven things - 6:16

**The Lord hates certain things**  
**The Lord says these are an abomination to Him**

### d. Solomon listed those seven things - 6:17-19

**The Lord hates a proud look**  
The proud lift themselves up by their actions - Prov. 30:13  
**The Lord hates a lying tongue**  
Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 12:22  
The lying tongue will only last a moment - Prov. 12:19  
**The Lord hates hands that shed innocent blood**  
Some sinners lie in wait for innocent blood - Prov. 1:16  
**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 quick to run to evil**  
The wicked are filled with evil - Prov. 12:20-21  
**The Lord hates a false witness**  
A false witness will not go unpunished - Prov. 19:5, 9  
**The Lord hates one who sows discord among brethren**  
A wicked man sows discord - Prov. 6:12-14  
Hatred stirs up strife - Prov. 10:12

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

**1. The adulteress will burn those who go to her - 6:20-28**

**a. Solomon encouraged his son to keep his commandments - 6:20-21**

**Solomon urged his son to keep his commands  
Solomon urged his son not to forsake the law of his mother  
Solomon said to have those laws continually in your heart  
Solomon said to tie those commands around his neck**

**b. Solomon said those commandments would be like a lamp - 6:22-23**

**Solomon told his son those commands would lead him as he walked  
The integrity of the upright leads them - Prov. 11:3  
Solomon said those commands would guard him as he slept  
The one who departs from evil guards his soul - Prov. 16:17  
Solomon said those commands would speak to him when he woke up  
The Word will speak to us as we meditate upon it - Josh. 1:8  
Solomon said commands are like a lamp  
Solomon said the law is like a light  
Solomon said reproofs of instruction are the way of life**

**c. Solomon said they would keep the son from the evil woman - 6:24**

**Solomon said the commands would keep him from the evil woman  
Solomon said they would keep him from the flattering tongue of a seductress**

**d. Solomon explained the goal of the immoral woman - 6:25-26**

**Solomon told his son not to lust after her beauty in his heart  
Solomon said to not let her allure him with her eyelids  
Solomon said such a woman would reduce his son to a crust of bread  
Solomon said such a woman is an adulteress who would destroy his life**

**e. Solomon said one who plays with fire will get burned - 6:27-28**

**Solomon warned what happens if a man takes fire in his bosom  
Solomon said such a man will see his clothes burned  
Solomon warned what happens if a man walks on hot coals  
Solomon said that the feet get seared**

**2. The adulteress will cause a man to destroy himself - 6:29-35**

**a. Solomon said the immoral will not be innocent - 6:29**

**Solomon said that is what happens to a man who goes to his neighbor's wife**

A man who commits adultery will be burned by his actions - Prov. 6:27-28

**Solomon said the one who touches her will not be innocent**

Any touch intended to stir up sexual desire - I Cor. 7:1

**b. Solomon said a thief has to repay when he steals - 6:30-31**

**Solomon said there are times when people do not despise a thief**

**Solomon said that is true when he is just satisfying his starving**

People may show mercy to a thief who is starving

**Solomon said if he is caught he must repay seven times as much**

Those guilty of stealing were to make restitution - Num. 5:6-7

**Solomon said he may have to give up everything he has**

Zacchaeus volunteered to repay anything he had stolen - Luke 19:8

**c. Solomon said one who commits adultery destroys himself - 6:32-33**

**Solomon said the one who commits adultery lacks understanding**

Solomon saw one who showed this lack of understanding - Prov. 7:7

**Solomon said that such a person destroys his own soul**

He is following the way that leads to death - Prov. 2:18-19

**Solomon said that person will get wounds for himself**

Sexual sin can lead to physical disease - Prov. 5:11

**Solomon said that person gets dishonor (shame)**

He brings shame on his own life - Prov. 3:35

**Solomon said such a person cannot wipe away his reproach**

His shame will not be blotted out and even destroys kings - Prov. 31:3

**d. Solomon said there is no payment a husband will accept - 6:34-35**

**Solomon said the husband will be furious because of jealousy**

**Solomon said he will not spare when he takes vengeance**

A husband will show no compassion when he takes vengeance

**Solomon said the husband will not accept any payment**

A husband will not be satisfied with a payment of money - Ex. 21:30

**Solomon said the husband cannot be appeased with gifts**

A husband will not be satisfied with many gifts

**O. The encouragement to avoid the prostitute - 7:1-27**

**1. The prostitute looks for those lacking discernment - 7:1-9**

**a. Solomon said to keep his commands and live - 7:1-2**

**Solomon urged his son to keep his words  
Solomon urged his son to treasure his commands  
Solomon said he would live if he kept his commands  
Solomon said the commands should be like the apple of your eye**

**b. Solomon said wisdom would protect from the immoral woman - 7:3-5**

**Solomon said to bind his commands on the fingers  
Solomon said to write the commands on the tablet of the heart  
The Word in our hearts will keep us from sinning - Ps. 119:11  
Solomon told his son to recognize wisdom as his sister  
Solomon said to call understanding his closest relative  
Solomon said wisdom would keep him from the immoral woman  
Solomon said wisdom would keep him from the seductress  
A seductress in proverbs is a woman who commits adultery - Prov. 2:16-17  
Solomon said she entices with flattering words  
To flatter means to speak with a divided heart - Hos. 10:2**

**c. Solomon saw a young man lacking understanding - 7:6-7**

**Solomon said he was sitting at the window of his house  
Solomon said that he was looking through the lattice  
Solomon said that he saw a group of simple young men  
Simple means foolish who are open to enticements to sin - Prov. 9:1-6  
Solomon focused his sight on one particular young man  
Solomon said this young man was devoid of understanding  
Devoid means to lack spiritual understanding that leads to God - Prov. 6:32**

**d. Solomon saw the young man thought the darkness hid him - 7:8-9**

**Solomon said he took the street that passed the seductress  
Solomon saw that he took the path to her house  
Solomon said he saw this happen as it was getting dark  
Solomon saw the young man was trying to cover his actions with darkness  
People love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil - John 3:19**

## 2. The prostitute appeals to the lustful heart - 7:10-18

### a. Solomon warned the prostitute has a crafty heart - 7:10-11

**The woman met the young man**  
**The woman was dressed like a prostitute**  
**The woman had a crafty heart**  
Crafty in this verse speaks of secret sin - Is. 65:2-5  
**The woman was loud and rebellious**  
**The woman did not stay at home**

### b. Solomon warned the prostitute appeals to the physical senses - 7:12-15

**The woman would be in the open square at times**  
**The woman would be waiting in the streets at times**  
**The woman caught the young man and kissed him**  
Caught means to strengthen or to hold tightly - Prov. 4:13  
**The woman had a impudent face**  
Impudent means hardened or strengthened - Prov. 21:29  
**The woman offered food to the young man**  
Most of the peace offering went to the person - Lev. 7:11-14  
**The woman said she had paid her religious vows**  
The woman had food that must be eaten that night - Lev. 7:15  
**The woman said she came out to meet the young man**  
**The woman said that she was really looking for him**  
She said she was earnestly seeking him - Prov. 7:10

### c. Solomon warned the prostitute appeals to the visual senses - 7:16-17

**The woman said she had prepared her bed with tapestry**  
**The woman said it had colored coverings of Egyptian linen**  
**The woman said she had perfumed her bed with spices**  
Joseph showed the need to flee such temptation - Gen. 39:7-12  
This young man chose the way that leads to judgment - Prov. 7:25-27

### d. Solomon warned the prostitute offers her physical body - 7:18

**The woman offered their fill of love until the morning**  
Fill means to be saturated with water, drink or love - Prov. 5:18-19  
**The woman said they could delight themselves with love**  
Adultery is sexual pleasure for a short time and not true love - Ps. 49:12-14

### **3. The prostitute entices her victims - 7:19-27**

#### **a. Solomon warned the prostitute says the husband will not know - 7:19-20**

**The woman said her husband was not at home  
The woman said her husband had gone on a long journey  
The woman said her husband had taken a bag of money with him  
The woman said her husband would come home on a set day  
She said he would not get caught - Prov. 6:33-35**

#### **b. Solomon warned the prostitute uses flattery to seduce - 7:21**

**The woman used enticing speech to get him to yield  
Her words and heart were very different - Prov. 5:3-5  
The woman used flattering lips to seduce him  
The young man was driven by her words - Is. 8:22**

#### **c. Solomon warned the prostitute destroys the lives of others - 7:22-23**

**The young man immediately followed her  
The young man was like an ox going to the slaughter  
The young man was like a fool being taken to the stocks  
The young man would have an arrow strike his liver  
The young man was like a bird hurrying to the snare  
The young man did not know it would cost him his life**

#### **d. Solomon warned his son not to listen to the prostitute - 7:24-25**

**Solomon told his children to listen to him  
Solomon told his children to pay attention to his words  
Solomon told them not to let their hearts turn aside to her ways  
Solomon told them not to stray into her paths**

#### **e. Solomon warned the prostitute had destroyed many others - 7:26-27**

**Solomon said she had cast down many wounded  
She had caused many to be fatally wounded - I Sam. 31:8  
Solomon said her victims were strong men  
Strong usually refers to strong nations - Deut. 4:38  
Solomon said her house was the way to hell  
Solomon said her way descended to the chambers of death**

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

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

**a. Wisdom will produce righteous living - 8:1-8**

**1). Wisdom is available to all who seek it - 8:1-3**

**Wisdom cries out to all**

It does not hide in the darkness - John 3:19-21

**Wisdom offers understanding**

The Lord is the source of understanding - Prov. 2:2-6

**Wisdom is available in the high places**

These were the high places (hills) in a city - Prov. 9:3

**Wisdom is available where the paths meet**

This is where the paths of righteousness meet - Prov. 8:20

**Wisdom cries out at the gates of entrance to the city**

This is the place where the leaders of the city met - Ruth 4:1-2

**Wisdom cries out at the entrance of the doors**

The entrance was the door of the house where the sun went down - Ps. 113:3

**2). Wisdom will do various things for different people - 8:4-5**

**Wisdom calls out to the men**

**Wisdom speaks to the sons of men**

**Wisdom speaks to the simple ones**

The simple can talk about those who are untaught - Prov. 27:12

**Wisdom invites the simple to understand prudence**

A prudent man can recognize evil in advance - Prov. 27:12

**Wisdom invites fools to seek an understanding heart**

A fool has no desire for understanding - Prov. 18:2

**3). Wisdom speaks of the things that are right - 8:6-8**

**Wisdom promises to speak of excellent things**

**Wisdom promises to speak of right things**

**Wisdom says truth will come from its mouth**

**Wisdom says wickedness is an abomination to its lips**

**Wisdom speaks all of its words in righteousness**

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

**Wisdom does not speak anything crooked or perverse**

**b. Wisdom will develop counsel and understanding - 8:9-14**

**1). Wisdom is for those who have understanding - 8:9**

**Wisdom is plain to those who have understanding**

Wisdom is given as we ask God for it - James 1:5

Wisdom is given as we meditate on the Word - Ps. 119:97-100

**Wisdom is right to those who find knowledge**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge - Prov. 1:7

**2). Wisdom has greater value than gold, silver or rubies - 8:10-11**

**Wisdom is worth more than silver**

**Knowledge is better than the best gold**

**Wisdom is better than rubies**

**Wisdom does not have anything that can compare with her**

**3). Wisdom will cause us to hate evil - 8:12-13**

**Wisdom abides with prudence**

Prudence here speaks of wise behavior - Prov. 1:4

**Wisdom finds out knowledge**

Knowledge here means gained through experience - Prov. 24:5

**Wisdom finds out discretion**

Discretion here guards a life from harm - Prov. 3:21

**The fear of the Lord is to hate evil**

**The fear of the Lord is to hate pride**

**The fear of the Lord is to hate arrogance**

**The fear of the Lord is to hate the evil way**

**The fear of the Lord is to hate the perverse mouth**

**4). Wisdom will make it possible to give wise counsel - 8:14**

**The fear of the Lord gives counsel**

Those who receive counsel are wise - Prov. 12:15

**The fear of the Lord gives sound wisdom**

The Lord gives sound wisdom to the righteous - Prov. 2:5

**The fear of the Lord gives understanding**

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

**The fear of the Lord gives strength**

We are to go in the strength of the Lord - Ps. 71:16-18

**c. wisdom is worth more than silver and gold - 8:15-21**

**1). Wisdom produces wise leaders - 8:15-16**

**The fear of the Lord helps kings to rule**

Solomon asked for an understanding heart - I Kings 3:7-9  
God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding - I Kings 3:10-12

**The fear of the Lord helps rulers to decree justice**

The Lord causes rulers to understand justice - Prov. 2:6-9

**The fear of the Lord leads princes to rule**

The princes are raised up to lead the people - Ps. 113:18

**The fear of the Lord leads nobles to rule**

**The fear of the Lord makes effective judges**

God establishes those who are faithful judges - Prov. 29:14  
A righteous judge pleads the cause of the poor - Prov. 31:9

**2). Wisdom will be found by those who seek it - 8:17**

**Wisdom loves those who love wisdom**

Those who love wisdom are blessed by it - Prov. 8:18-21

**Wisdom will be found by those who diligently seek it**

The one who seeks good receives favor - Prov. 11:27

**3). Wisdom has greater value than riches - 8:18-19**

**Wisdom is the source of true riches**

True riches are the result of humility - Prov. 22:4

**Wisdom is the source of honor**

**Wisdom leads to enduring riches**

Wisdom will bring riches and honor - Prov. 3:13-16

**Wisdom leads to righteousness**

**Wisdom is better than fine gold**

**Wisdom is better than choice silver**

**4). Wisdom will cause us to walk in righteousness - 8:20-21**

**Wisdom causes us to walk in the way of righteousness**

This is the result of fearing the Lord - Prov. 14:2

**Wisdom causes us to walk in the paths of justice**

**Wisdom will cause us to inherit true wealth**

**Wisdom will cause the Lord to fill our treasuries**

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

### a. Wisdom is everlasting in its background - 8:22-23

**The Lord possessed wisdom in the beginning**

Christ is the wisdom of God - I Cor. 1:24

**The Lord possessed wisdom before His works of old**

**The Lord established wisdom from everlasting**

The Lord is our Redeemer from everlasting - Is. 63:16

**The Lord established wisdom from the beginning**

No man can find out the work of God from the beginning - Eccl. 3:11

**The Lord established wisdom before there was even an earth**

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth - Prov. 3:19

### b. Wisdom existed before any creation - 8:24-26

**The Lord established wisdom when there were no depths**

**The Lord established wisdom when there were no fountains of water**

These are the fountains of the deep - Gen. 7:11

**The Lord established wisdom before there were any mountains**

**The Lord established wisdom before there were any hills**

**The Lord established wisdom before the earth or the fields**

**The Lord established the earth before there was any dust**

Nothing existed when God began His work of creation - John 1:4

### c. Wisdom was exercised in the creation of the waters - 8:27-29

**Wisdom was present when God created the heavens**

Christ used His eternal wisdom when He created the earth - John 1:1-3

**Wisdom was present when God drew the circle of the earth**

The world was created as a circle - Is. 40:22

**Wisdom was present when He established the clouds above**

God divided the waters above from the waters on the earth - Gen. 1:7

**Wisdom was present when He strengthened the fountains of the deep**

By His knowledge the depths were broken up - Prov. 3:20

**Wisdom was present when He assigned the sea its limit**

This limit of the sea was assigned at creation - Gen. 1:9

**Wisdom was present when He set the limits for the waters**

This was declared permanent after the flood - Gen. 9:11

**Wisdom was present when He established the foundations of the earth**

Christ chose us before He even established these foundations - Eph. 1:4-5

**d. Wisdom was with God as a Master Craftsman - 8:30-31**

**Wisdom was beside God as a Master Craftsman**

God founded the world through wisdom - Ps. 89:11

**Wisdom was the daily delight of God**

God rejoiced over everything in His creation - Gen. 1:31

**Wisdom caused everything to rejoice before Him**

Even the stars sang together in joy - Job 38:7

**Wisdom rejoiced in His inhabited world**

**Wisdom was filled with delight with the sons of men**

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

**a. Wisdom gives real purpose for life - 8:32-36**

**1). Wisdom will bring blessing - 8:32**

**Wisdom asks the children to listen**

The one who listens will abide among the wise - Prov. 15:29

**Wisdom will cause those who keep its ways to be blessed**

Those who hear instruction will be wise in the end - Prov. 19:20

**2). Wisdom comes to those who hear instruction - 8:33-34**

**Wisdom calls his children to hear instruction**

A wise man will hear and learn - Prov. 1:5

**Wisdom calls his children to be wise**

Those who hear instruction dwell in safety - Prov. 1:33

**Wisdom calls his children to watch daily at wisdom's gates**

**Wisdom calls his children to wait at the posts of his doors**

**3). Wisdom will give purpose for life - 8:35-36**

**The person who finds wisdom finds life**

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

**The person who finds wisdom obtains favor from the Lord**

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

**The person who sins against wisdom wrongs his own soul**

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

**The person who hates wisdom loves death**

Wisdom is a tree of life - Prov. 3:18

**b. Wisdom will help you go forward in the way of understanding - 9:1-6**

**1). Wisdom invites people to feast on that wisdom - 9:1-2**

**Wisdom has built her house**

A house is built through wisdom - Prov. 24:3  
Christ went to prepare a place for us - John 14:1-6

**Wisdom has hewn out her seven pillars**

Seven is the number of completeness - Gen. 2:1-2

**Wisdom has slaughtered her meat**

Meat is prepared for a feast - Matt. 22:4

**Wisdom has mixed her wine**

Wine is provided at a feast - John 2:3-11

**Wisdom has furnished her table**

Christ is the living bread from heaven - John 6:50-51

**2). Wisdom gives an invitation to all - 9:3-4**

**Wisdom has sent out her maidens**

God invites all to His banquet - Matt. 22:2, 8-10

**Wisdom cries out from the highest places of the city**

The foolish woman also cries from the highest places - Prov. 9:14

People will choose life or death - Deut. 30:19-20

**Wisdom invites the simple to receive wisdom**

The simple are invited to choose wisdom and life - Prov. 8:5

**Wisdom gives the same invitation to those who lack understanding**

Those lacking understanding are invited to choose life - Prov. 15:32-33

**3). Wisdom says to feast on wisdom - 9:5**

**Wisdom says to eat of her bread**

Christ is the Bread of Life - John 6:35

**Wisdom says to drink the wine that she has mixed**

Christ invites us to drink rivers of living water - John 7:37-39

**4). Wisdom says to forsake foolishness - 9:6**

**Wisdom says to forsake foolishness and live**

The paths of wisdom are peace - Prov. 3:17

**Wisdom says to go in the way of understanding**

Reproofs of instruction are the way of life - Prov. 6:23

**c. Wisdom will multiply your days - 9:7-12**

**1). Wisdom is rejected by wicked people - 9:7-8**

**The one who corrects a scoffer gets shame**

A scoffer does not hear a rebuke - Prov. 13:1

**The one who corrects a wicked man harms himself**

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

**The one who corrects a scoffer will be hated**

A scoffer does not love the one who corrects him - Prov. 15:12

**The one who rebukes a wise man will be loved**

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

**2). Wisdom is appreciated by the wise and the just - 9:9**

**Give instruction to a wise man and he will be wiser**

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

**Teach a just man and he will increase learning**

The just man will learn to teach others - Prov. 10:21

**3). Wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord - 9:10**

**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom**

Fear (godly reverence) develops Godly wisdom - Prov. 2:5-6

**The knowledge of the Holy One is understanding**

We no longer depend on our own understanding - Prov. 3:5

**4). Wisdom will add length to your days - 9:11-12**

**Wisdom will cause our days to be multiplied**

Wisdom will cause our days to be many - Prov. 4:10

**Wisdom will add years to our lives**

**Wisdom will cause us personal benefit**

The Word of the Lord makes the simple wise - Ps. 19:7

The commands of the Lord will make us wise - Ps. 119:98

Those who hear instruction will be wise - Prov. 8:33

Instruction makes the wise even wiser - Prov. 9:9

Wisdom will guide our heart - Prov. 23:19

**Scoffing will only hurt ourselves**

God will scoff at the scoffers - Prov. 3:34

A scoffer will not find wisdom - Prov. 14:6

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

**1). A foolish woman lacks wisdom - 9:13-14**

**A foolish woman is loud**  
Her voice shows her inner unrest - Prov. 7:11  
**A foolish woman is simple**  
Her actions show her rebellion - Prov. 7:12  
**A foolish woman knows nothing**  
She does not even know why she stumbles - Prov. 4:19  
**A foolish woman sits at the door of her house**  
A foolish woman looks for victims - Prov. 23:27-28  
**A foolish woman sits by the highest places in the city**

**2). A foolish woman calls to those who pass by - 9:15**

**A foolish woman calls to those who pass by**  
This is someone just walking by - Prov. 22:3  
**A foolish woman calls to those who are going straight on their way**  
She convinces some to leave the paths of uprightness - Prov. 2:13

**3). A foolish woman calls to the simple - 9:16**

**A foolish woman calls to the simple**  
The simple are those who lack understanding - Prov. 7:7  
**A foolish woman invites the simple to turn in here**  
The simple do not know that they will be punished - Prov. 22:3  
**A foolish woman offers herself to those who lack understanding**  
She does not say she will take everything - Prov. 6:26

**4). A foolish woman offers present pleasure and eternal judgment - 9:17-18**

**A foolish woman says stolen water is sweet**  
A man cannot walk on hot coals without being burned - Prov. 6:28  
**A foolish woman says bread eaten in secret is pleasant**  
She says he will not get caught - Prov. 7:19-20  
**The foolish woman does not say that the dead or there**  
A simple man will die for lack of instruction - Prov. 5:23  
Her house leads to death - Prov. 2:18  
**The foolish woman does not say her guests are in hell**  
A simple man does not realize it will cost him his life - Prov. 7:23

### 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. Righteous living brings blessings - 10:1-8

###### a. Righteous living benefits the family - 10:1

**The Proverbs of Solomon**  
**A wise son makes a glad father**  
Godly wisdom comes from the heart - Prov. 23:15-16  
**A foolish son is a grief to the mother**  
A foolish son despises his mother - Prov. 15:20

###### b. Righteous living delivers one from death - 10:2-3

**Riches from wickedness profit nothing**  
**Righteousness delivers from death**  
Righteousness in this verse is the result of salvation - Prov. 11:6  
**A righteous person will not famish**  
We are made righteous when we are justified by Christ - Is. 53:11  
**A wicked person will not get what he desires**

###### c. Righteous living prevents shame - 10:4-5

**A deceitful person becomes poor**  
This person is deceitful and idle - Prov. 19:15  
**A diligent person becomes rich**  
The soul of the diligent shall be made rich - Prov. 13:4  
The substance of the diligent man is precious - Prov. 12:27  
**One who works during the harvest is a wise son**  
**One who sleeps during harvest causes shame**

###### d. Righteous living brings blessings - 10:6-7

**Blessings are on the head of the righteous**  
The righteousness of Christ gives us an everlasting foundation - Prov. 10:25  
**Violence covers the mouth of the wicked**  
**The memory of the righteous is blessed**  
The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom - Prov. 10:30-31  
**The memory of the wicked will rot**

## 2. Righteous living is a fountain of life - 10:8-16

### a. Righteous living results in walking with integrity - 10:8-9

**The wise in heart will receive commands**

The wise in heart will be quick to hear - Prov. 1:5

**A prating (the lips of a) fool will fall**

A fool speaks without thinking - Prov. 10:19

**One who walks in integrity walks securely**

The just man walks in his integrity - Prov. 20:7

**One who perverts his ways will become known**

### b. Righteous living is a well of life - 10:10-12

**One who winks with the eye causes trouble**

**A prating fool will fall**

The lips of an ungodly man dig up evil - Prov. 16:27

**The mouth of the righteous is a well of life**

The words of a godly man are the source of wisdom - Prov. 18:4

**Violence covers the mouth of the wicked**

**Hatred stirs up strife**

**Love covers all sins**

### c. Righteous living causes one to develop wisdom - 10:13-14

**Wisdom is on the lips of one with understanding**

Wisdom comes from the heart of him who has understanding - Prov. 14:33

**A rod is for the back of one lacking understanding**

**Wise people store up knowledge**

Wise people store up the wisdom that God gives - Prov. 2:6-7

**The mouth of the foolish is near destruction**

### d. Righteous living leads to life - 10:15-16

**The rich man's wealth is his strong city**

The rich man depends on his wealth - Prov. 28:11

**The destruction of the poor is their poverty**

Many try to forget their poverty - Prov. 31:6-7

**The labor of the righteous leads to life**

Wisdom is the source of life to the soul - Prov. 3:17

**The wages of the wicked to sin**

### 3. Righteous living guides the tongue - 10:17-24

#### a. Righteous living leads one to receive instruction - 10:17-18

**The one who receives instruction is in the way of life**

We are to keep instruction in our hearts - Prov. 4:20-21

**The one who refuses correction goes astray**

**The who hides hatred has lying lips**

**The one who spreads slander is a fool**

#### b. Righteous living affects how one speaks - 10:19-21

**Sin is not lacking when there are a lot of words**

**The one who restrains his lips is wise**

Be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to wrath - James 1:19-20

**The tongue of the righteous is choice silver**

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

**The heart of the wicked is worth little**

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

**The lips of the righteous feed many**

Christ feeds His flock like a shepherd - Is. 40:11; Ezek. 34:11-16

We are to feed the church of God - Acts 20:28; I Pet. 5:3-5

**Fools die for lack of wisdom**

#### c. Righteous living leads one to receive the blessing of the Lord - 10:22

**The blessing of the Lord makes one rich**

The hand of the diligent makes rich - Prov. 10:4

**The Lord adds no sorrow with His blessing**

#### d. Righteous living will lead to the fulfillment of desires - 10:23-24

**Evil is like sport to a fool**

Sport is usually translated laughter - Eccl. 7:3

**A man of understanding has wisdom**

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

**The fear of the wicked will come upon him**

The wicked fear eternal judgment - Heb. 10:26-29

**The desire of the righteous will be granted**

The Lord hears the desire of the humble - Ps. 10:17

The longings of the heart will be granted - Ps. 21:1-2

#### **4. Righteous living prolongs life - 10:25-32**

##### **a. Righteous living gives an everlasting foundation - 10:25-26**

**The wicked is like the whirlwind that comes and is gone**

Their destruction will come quickly - Prov. 1:27

**The righteous has an everlasting foundation**

This is in contrast to the base of the altar - Lev. 4:7

**A lazy man is like vinegar to the teeth**

They gave Christ vinegar to drink - Ps. 69:21

**A lazy man is like smoke to the eyes**

##### **b. Righteous living gives hope - 10:27-28**

**The fear of the Lord prolongs days**

The fear of the Lord lengthens life - Prov. 16:21-23

**The years of the wicked will be shortened**

**The hope of the righteous will be gladness**

Hope will be complete when Christ returns - Titus 2:13

**The expectation of the wicked will perish**

The wicked have no hope for the future - Prov. 11:7

##### **c. Righteous living has eternal value - 10:29-30**

**The way of the Lord is strength for the upright**

The Lord is our strength in time of trouble - Ps. 37:39

**Destruction will come to the workers of iniquity**

**The righteous will never be removed**

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

**The wicked will not inhabit the earth**

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

##### **d. Righteous living gives the ability to speak with wisdom - 10:31-32**

**The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom**

The mouth of the upright gives wisdom - Prov. 12:6-8

**The perverse tongue will be cut out**

**The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable**

The lip of truth shall be established forever - Prov. 12:19

**The mouth of the wicked knows what is perverse**

The mouth of the wicked devours iniquity - Prov. 12:28

**5. Righteous living delivers a person from trouble - 11:1-8**

**a. Righteous living includes honest living - 11:1**

**Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord**  
Diverse weights are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 20:23  
**A just weight is the delight of the Lord**  
A just balance and weight are the Lord's - Prov. 16:11

**b. Righteous living will lead to humility - 11:2-3**

**Pride leads to shame**  
Shame will come to him who rejects correction - Prov. 13:18  
**Humility leads to wisdom**  
With the humble is wisdom - Micah 6:8  
**The integrity of the upright will guide them**  
The Lord will lead us in the way everlasting - Ps. 139:24  
**The perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them**  
The one who mistreats his parents will be destroyed - Prov. 19:26

**c. Righteous living guides us in the right way - 11:4-6**

**Riches do not profit in the day of judgment**  
The whole world will not profit in the day of judgment - Mark 8:36-37  
**Righteousness delivers from death**  
Righteousness delivers from death - Prov. 10:2  
**The righteousness of the blameless will direct him in the right way**  
**The wicked will fall by his own wickedness**  
A wicked messenger falls into trouble - Prov. 13:17  
**The righteousness of the upright will deliver them**  
**The unfaithful will be caught by their lust**  
The Lord casts away the desire of the wicked - Prov. 10:3

**d. Righteous living causes one to be delivered from trouble - 11:7-8**

**The expectation of the wicked will die with him**  
The expectation of the wicked is wrath - Prov. 11:23  
**The hope of the unjust perishes**  
**The righteous is delivered from trouble**  
The just are delivered through knowledge - Prov. 11:9  
**Trouble comes to the wicked instead**

## **6. Righteous living produces understanding - 11:9-16**

### **a. Righteous living delivers us from trouble - 11:9**

**The hypocrite destroys his neighbor with his mouth**

Hypocrite here speaks of one who is godless - Is. 9:17

**The righteous is delivered through knowledge**

Knowledge that is gained through experience - Prov. 12:1

### **b. Righteous living brings blessing to a city - 11:10-11**

**The city rejoices when it goes well with the righteous**

The house of the upright will be blessed - Prov. 14:11

**The city has jubilation when the wicked perish**

**The city is exalted by the blessing of the upright**

**The city is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked**

### **c. Righteous living affects our speech - 11:12-13**

**He who lacks wisdom despises his neighbor**

**A man of understanding keeps quiet**

He does not devise or talk about evil - Prov. 12:20, 23

**A talebearer reveals secrets**

**A faithful spirit conceals a matter**

A faithful person does not shame others - Prov. 12:16

### **d. Righteous living provides good counsel - 11:14**

**When there is no counsel the people fall**

The counsels of the wicked are deceit - Prov. 12:5

**In the multitude of counselors there is safety**

Counselors help us to develop purpose in life - Prov. 15:22

### **e. Righteous living brings honor - 11:15-16**

**He who takes a pledge for a stranger will suffer**

**One who hates taking a pledge will be secure**

A pledge is one who co-signs for a debt - Prov. 22:26

**A gracious woman retains honor**

One who speaks with grace - Prov. 13:15

**Ruthless men retain riches**

## **7. Righteous living produces godly desires - 11:17-23**

### **a. Righteous living brings a reward - 11:17-18**

**The merciful man does good for his own soul**  
By kindness and mercy sin is covered - Prov. 16:6  
**The cruel man troubles his own flesh**  
**The wicked man does deceptive work**  
**The man who sows righteousness will have a sure reward**  
Those who sow the Word of God will have a reward - Ps. 126:5-6

### **b. Righteous living leads to life - 11:19**

**Righteousness leads to life**  
Righteousness will give life to the soul - Prov. 3:20-21  
**He who pursues evil pursues it to his own death**  
God overthrows the wicked for their wickedness - Prov. 21:12

### **c. Righteous living is beneficial to our descendents - 11:20-21**

**Those who have a perverse heart are an abomination to the Lord**  
Seven things that are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 6:16-19  
The sacrifices of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 15:8  
The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 15:26  
A proud heart is an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 16:5  
**Those who are blameless in their ways are His delight**  
The blameless will remain in the land - Prov. 2:21  
The one who walks blamelessly will be saved - Prov. 28:18  
**The wicked will not go unpunished even if they join forces**  
**The descendents of the righteous will be delivered**  
The upright will remain in the land - Prov. 2:21

### **d. Righteous living gives a desire for good - 11:22-23**

**A lovely woman who lacks discretion**  
Discretion is good judgment - Ps. 119:66  
A woman with discretion is praised - I Sam. 25:33  
**Is like a gold ring in the nose of a pig**  
**The desire of the righteous is only good**  
**The expectation of the wicked is wrath**  
The hope of the wicked shall perish - Prov. 10:28

## 8. Righteous living causes a person to be generous - 11:24-31

### a. Righteous living develops generosity - 11:24-26

**One who scatters will increase more**  
The God fearing person gives to the poor - Ps. 112:9  
**One who withholds will find it leads to poverty**  
**The generous soul will be made rich**  
A faithful man will abound with blessings - Prov. 28:20  
**The one who waters will also be watered**  
**The people will curse the one who withholds grain**  
**There will be blessings on the head of him who sells grain**  
Christ said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" - Acts 20:35

### b. Righteous living causes one to seek what is good - 11:27

**He who earnestly seeks good will find favor**  
Those who seek the Lord diligently will find Him - Prov. 8:17  
**Trouble will come to him who seeks evil**  
The wicked do not seek the statutes of the Lord - Ps. 119:155

### c. Righteous living brings blessings in life - 11:28-29

**The one who trusts in riches will fall**  
Those who trust in riches will see them fly away - Prov. 23:5  
**The righteous will flourish like the leaves of trees**  
The house of the upright will flourish - Prov. 14:11  
**The one who troubles his house will inherit the wind**  
The one who is greedy for gain troubles his house - Prov. 15:27  
**The fool will be servant to the wise of heart**  
Fools are afflicted because of their sins - Ps. 107:17

### d. Righteous living leads to the winning of others - 11:30-31

**The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life**  
The righteous are like a fruitful tree - Ps. 1:1-3  
**The one who wins souls is wise**  
Those who lead people to Christ - Luke 5:10  
**The righteous will be recompensed on the earth**  
The Lord is the One who rewards us - Prov. 25:21  
**The ungodly and sinner will also be recompensed on the earth**

**9. Righteous living causes a person to stand firm - 12:1-9**

**a. Righteous living produces a reward - 12:1-3**

**The one who loves instruction loves knowledge**  
Instruction which results in knowledge - Prov. 8:33  
**The one who hates correction is stupid**  
**A good man obtains favor from the Lord**  
Those who speak truthfully are His delight - Prov. 12:22  
**A man of evil intentions is condemned by the Lord**  
**A man is not established by wickedness**  
**The root of the righteous cannot be moved**  
We are to be rooted in Christ - Col. 2:6-7

**b. Righteous living causes a woman to be a crown to her husband - 12:4**

**An excellent wife is a crown to her husband**  
A virtuous wife has greater value than rubies - Prov. 31:10  
**A wife who causes shame is like rottenness to his bones**  
The contentions of a wife are a continual dripping - Prov. 19:13

**c. Righteous living guides the thoughts and words of the righteous - 12:5-6**

**The thoughts of the righteous are right**  
**The counsels of the wicked are deceitful**  
**The words of the wicked are "Lie in wait for blood"**  
**The mouth of the upright will deliver them**

**d. Righteous living will cause a person to stand - 12:7**

**The wicked are overthrown and are not**  
**The house of the righteous shall stand**  
A household is established by wisdom - Prov. 24:3

**e. Righteous living has a good end - 12:8-9**

**A man will be commended according to his wisdom**  
This praise will come from the mouths of others - Prov. 27:2  
**A perverse heart will be despised**  
**Better is one that is slighted and has a servant**  
**Then he who honors himself but lacks bread**

**10. Righteous living produces kindness and godly speech - 12:10-19**

**a. Righteous living is shown by kindness to animals and people - 12:10-11**

**A righteous man is concerned about the life of his animal**  
**A wicked man does not even show tender mercy**  
He will reap as he sows - Prov. 17:11; Gal. 6:7-8  
**He who works his land will be satisfied with food**  
There will be plenty of bread - Prov. 28:19  
**He who follows worthless people lacks understanding**

**b. Righteous living will cause one to come through trouble - 12:12-14**

**The wicked covet the things evil men get from their sin**  
This can include the coveting of anything - Ex. 20:17  
**The root of the righteous yields fruit**  
The Lord makes the lives of Christians fruitful - Ps. 1:1-3  
**The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips**  
**The righteous will come through trouble**  
A righteous man falls seven times and rises up again - Prov. 24:11  
**A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth**  
**The reward of a man's hands will be given to him**

**c. Righteous living produces godly attitudes - 12:15-16**

**The way of a fool is right in his own eyes**  
**The one who listens to counsel is wise**  
The one who hears counsel becomes wise - Prov. 19:20  
**The wrath of a fool is known at once**  
**A prudent man covers shame**

**d. Righteous living results in truthful talk - 12:17-19**

**One who speaks truth declares righteousness**  
One who speaks truth is the delight of the Lord - Prov. 12:22  
**A false witness speaks deceit**  
**One speaks like the piercings of a sword**  
**The tongue of the wise promotes health**  
Pleasant words are health to the bones - Prov. 16:24  
**The truthful lip will be established forever**  
**A lying tongue lasts for only a moment**

## 11. Righteous living is the way of life - 12:20-28

### a. Righteous living will lead to peace - 12:20-21

**Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil**  
The deceit of evil men comes from the heart - Prov. 26:24  
**Counselors of peace have joy**  
Wisdom leads us in the path of peace - Prov. 3:13  
**No grave trouble will overtake the righteous**  
**The wicked shall be filled with evil**

### b. Righteous living causes one to deal in truth - 12:22-23

**Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord**  
**Those who deal truthfully are His delight**  
**A prudent man conceals knowledge**  
A prudent man does not shame others - Prov. 12:16  
**The heart of a fool proclaims foolishness**

### c. Righteous living will cause a person to rule - 12:24

**The hand of the diligent will rule**  
They have learned to rule their own spirit - Prov. 16:32  
**The lazy man will be put to forced labor**

### d. Righteous living is a cure for depression - 12:25-26

**Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression**  
By sorrow of heart the spirit is broken - Prov. 15:13  
**A good word makes it glad**  
The words of a wise child cause the parents to rejoice - Prov. 23:24  
**The righteous should choose his friends carefully**  
**The way of the wicked leads them astray**

### e. Righteous living is the way of life - 12:27-28

**The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting**  
**Diligence is the precious possession of man**  
**The way of righteousness is life**  
The way of life winds upward for the wise - Prov. 15:24  
**In the pathway of righteousness there is no death**

**12. Righteous living protects the ways of a person - 13:1-8**

**a. Righteous living causes one to listen to instruction - 13:1**

**A wise son listens to the instruction of his father**

This includes instruction with discipline - Prov. 3:11

**A scoffer does not listen to rebuke**

A scoffer mocks sin and judgment - Prov. 14:9; 19:28-29

**b. Righteous living causes one to speak with wisdom - 13:2-3**

**A man who speaks with wisdom will be blessed**

A man who speaks good words is fruitful - Prov. 11:30; 18:20-21

**A man who speaks evil will feed on violence**

**A man who guards his mouth preserves his life**

One who is careful in what he says - Ps. 141:3

One who guards his path in life preserves his life - Prov. 16:17

**A man who does not guard his mouth seeks destruction**

One who talks without thinking seeks destruction - Prov. 10:14

**c. Righteous living causes one to practice righteousness - 13:4-6**

**The soul of a lazy man has nothing**

This is a person who is too lazy to work - Prov. 21:25

**The soul of the diligent will be made rich**

Diligent speaks of one who is sharp - Prov. 21:5

**A righteous man hates lying**

The Lord also hates lying and evil - Prov. 6:16-17; 8:13

**A wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame**

A wicked man stinks and displays shame - Prov. 19:26

**Righteousness guards the man who is blameless**

The righteous man walks in his integrity - Prov. 20:7

**Wickedness overthrows the sinner**

**d. Righteous living causes one to seek spiritual riches - 13:7-8**

**One boasts that he has great worldly riches**

**One is humble and has true riches**

The poor who is humble has spiritual riches - Prov. 18:23

**The riches of a man pays his ransom**

**The poor man does not get rebuked**

### **13. Righteous living gives good understanding - 13:9-17**

#### **a. Righteous living causes one to seek spiritual light - 13:9-10**

**The light of the righteous rejoices**  
The path of the just is like the shining light - Prov. 4:18  
**The lamp of the wicked goes out**  
The way of the wicked is darkness - Prov. 4:19  
**Pride produces nothing but strife**  
Pride causes much conflict - Prov. 17:19  
**The one who receives counsel has wisdom**  
Purposes are established through a multitude of counselors - Prov. 15:22  
This was demonstrated in the life of Moses - Ex. 18:19-26

#### **b. Righteous living causes one to seek godly desires - 13:11-12**

**Wealth gained by dishonesty will decrease**  
**Gain gathered through honest labor will increase**  
**Hope deferred makes the heart sick**  
Hope does good, lack of hope destroys - Prov. 15:13-15; 17:22  
**When desire comes it is a tree of life**

#### **c. Righteous living causes one to be led by the Word - 13:13-14**

**The one who despises the Word will be destroyed**  
**He who fears the commandment will be rewarded**  
The Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path - Ps. 119:105  
**The law of the wise is a fountain of life**  
One who shares the Word is like a source of life - Prov. 10:11  
**The law causes people to depart from the snares of death**

#### **d. Righteous living causes one to seek godly knowledge - 13:15-17**

**Good understanding gains favor**  
**The way of the unfaithful is hard**  
**A prudent man acts with knowledge**  
**A fool displays his folly**  
**A wicked messenger falls into trouble**  
The wicked falls by his own wickedness - Prov. 11:5  
**A faithful ambassador brings health**  
Pleasant words are health to the soul - Prov. 16:24

## 14. Righteous living is the result of walking with wise men - 13:18-25

### a. Righteous living causes one to accept correction - 13:18-19

**Poverty and shame will be to the one who refuses instruction**

The proud who refuse instruction will bring shame on themselves - Prov. 11:2

**The one who receives reproof will be honored**

The one who receives reproof abides among the wise - Prov. 15:31-32

**Desire accomplished is sweet to the soul**

When the longings of our heart happen, it is sweet - Prov. 10:24

**It is an abomination to fools to depart from evil**

### b. Righteous living causes one to seek wisdom - 13:20-21

**The one who walks with wise men will be wise**

Christ demonstrated this as a boy - Luke 2:46-47

**The companion of fools will be destroyed**

**Evil pursues sinners**

Evil follows those who practice habitual sin - Prov. 1:10-17

**Good is repaid to the righteous**

This is true even on earth - Prov. 11:31

This reward comes from the Lord - Prov. 25:21-22

### c. Righteous living causes one to experience godly blessing - 13:22-23

**A good man leaves an inheritance to his grandchildren**

Honor is a special inheritance to grandchildren - Prov. 3:35

**The wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous**

**Much food is in the fallow ground of the poor**

We get the opportunity to sow the Word of God - Mark 4:14-20

**For lack of justice there is waste**

The riches of this world are often corrupted - Jam. 5:1-6

### d. Righteous living causes one to develop right actions - 13:24-25

**This one who spares his rod hates his son**

**The one who loves his son disciplines him promptly**

Discipline and correction give wisdom - Prov. 29:15

**The righteous eats and it satisfies his soul**

The Lord causes us to experience the fullness of joy - Ps. 15:11

**The stomach of the wicked shall be in want**

**15. Righteous living is the result of fearing the Lord - 14:1-9**

**a. Righteous living causes one to fear the Lord - 14:1-2**

**Every wise woman builds her house**

This book contains an example of how this is done - Prov. 31:10-31

**The foolish woman pulls it down with her hands**

A city or a family is overthrown by the words of the wicked - Prov. 11:11

**The one who walks in uprightness fears the Lord**

The Lord encouraged Solomon to walk in uprightness - I Kings 9:4

**The one who is perverse in his ways despises the Lord**

**b. Righteous living causes one to be a faithful witness - 14:3-5**

**In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride**

The pride of a man will bring him low - Prov. 29:23

**The lips of the wise will preserve them**

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

**The trough is clean when there are no oxen**

**Much increase comes by the strength of the oxen**

**A faithful witness does not lie**

A faithful witness is health - Prov. 13:17

**The folly of fools is deceit**

**c. Righteous living causes one to look for wise men - 14:6-7**

**A scoffer seeks wisdom and does not find it**

**Knowledge is easy to him who understands**

Solomon asked the Lord for an understanding heart - I Kings 3:7-9

**Go from the presence of a foolish man**

**You will perceive that he does not have the lips of knowledge**

**d. Righteous living causes one to avoid following fools - 14:8-9**

**The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way**

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

**The folly of fools is deceit**

**Fools make a mock of sin**

Fools boast about their sin - Prov. 15:12

**Among the upright there is favor**

The one who hears instruction obtains favor - Prov. 8:35

**16. Righteous living causes us to consider our steps - 14:10-18**

**a. Righteous living impacts our inner life - 14:10-11**

**Only the heart knows its own bitterness (grief)**  
Christ experienced great agony in the garden - Luke 22:44  
**A stranger does not share its joy**  
In contrast a talebearer reveals secrets - Prov. 20:19  
**The house of the wicked will be overthrown**  
**The tent of the upright will flourish**  
The dwelling place of the upright will blossom - Prov. 11:28

**b. Righteous living protects one from deception - 14:12-14**

**There is a way that seems right to a man**  
The way of the world is the wide way - Matt. 7:13-14  
**That is a way whose end is death**  
The way of the ungodly will not stand - Ps. 1:4-6  
**Even in laughter a heart may sorrow**  
This is the laughter of mirth or mocking - Prov. 10:23; Eccl. 7:6  
**The end of mirth may be grief**  
This describes the grief of a parent - Prov. 10:1  
**The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways**  
**A good man will be satisfied from above**

**c. Righteous living causes one to consider what he hears - 14:15-16**

**The simple believes every word**  
**The prudent considers well his steps**  
A prudent man sees evil in advance - Prov. 27:12  
**A wise man fears and departs from evil**  
A wise man turns away from evil - Prov. 16:17  
**A fool rages and is self-confident**

**d. Righteous living causes one to think before acting - 14:17-18**

**A quick-tempered man acts foolishly**  
**A man of wicked intentions is hated**  
**The simple inherit folly**  
**The prudent are crowned with knowledge**  
A prudent man does not boast about his knowledge - Prov. 12:23

**17. Righteous living causes us to save lives - 14:19-27**

**a. Righteous living causes one to have a concern for the poor - 14:19-21**

**The evil will bow down before the good**  
Evil men bow down to the righteous - Is. 60:14  
**The wicked will bow at the gates of the righteous**  
**The poor man is hated even by his own neighbor**  
This shows a lack of respect for God - Prov. 17:5  
**The rich has many friends**  
**He who despises his neighbor sins**  
This also shows a lack of wisdom - Prov. 11:12  
**Happy is he who has mercy on the poor**  
The person who gives to the poor will not lack - Prov. 28:27

**b. Righteous living causes one to seek mercy and truth - 14:22-23**

**Those who devise evil go astray**  
This shows the condition of the heart - Prov. 6:14  
**Mercy and truth belong to those who devise good**  
**In all labor there is profit**  
The plans of the diligent lead to plenty - Prov. 21:5  
**Idle chatter leads only to poverty**  
Those who seek ease will not be rich - Prov. 21:17

**c. Righteous living causes one to deliver others - 14:24-25**

**The crown of the wise is their riches**  
**The foolishness of fools is folly**  
**A true witness delivers souls**  
He who wins souls is wise - Prov. 11:30  
**A deceitful witness speaks lies**

**d. Righteous living cause one to have a fear of the Lord - 14:26-27**

**In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence**  
This fear is to be accompanied by humility - Prov. 22:4  
**His children will have a place of refuge**  
**The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life**  
By the fear of the Lord men depart from evil - Prov. 16:6  
**It turns one away from the snares of death**

**18. Righteous living causes a concern for others - 14:28-35**

**a. Righteous living causes one to have great understanding - 14:28-29**

**In the multitude of people is a king's honor**  
This is a king that the people respect - Prov. 30:29-31  
**The lack of people is the downfall of a prince**  
**He who is slow to wrath has great understanding**  
We are to be quick to hear - James 1:19  
**He who is impulsive exalts folly**  
A quick-tempered man acts foolishly - Prov. 14:16

**b. Righteous living causes one to honor his Maker - 14:30-31**

**A sound heart is life to the body**  
Having the commandments in the heart gives life - Prov. 4:20-22  
**Envy is rottenness to the bones**  
**He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker**  
**He who honors his Maker has mercy on the needy**  
He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord - Prov. 19:17

**c. Righteous living causes one to develop a heart of understanding - 14:32-33**

**The wicked is banished in his wickedness**  
**The righteous has a refuge in his death**  
**Wisdom rests in the heart of him who has understanding**  
Wisdom invites people to have an understanding heart - Prov. 8:5  
Wisdom is found in the lips of him who has understanding - Prov. 10:13  
**What is in the heart of fools is made known**  
The heart of fools proclaims foolishness - Prov. 12:23  
The mouth of fools feeds on foolishness - Prov. 15:14; 18:6-7

**d. Righteous living can bless an entire nation - 14:34-35**

**Righteousness exalts a nation**  
The righteousness of the righteous shall deliver them - Prov. 11:6  
**Sin is a reproach to any people**  
**The king's favor is toward a wise servant**  
A wise servant will be given greater responsibility - Prov. 17:2  
**The king's wrath is against him who causes shame**  
This can even include his own son - Prov. 19:26

**19. Righteous living causes one to speak words of encouragement - 15:1-8**

**a. Righteous living causes one to speak softly - 15:1-2**

**A soft answer turns away wrath**  
This kind of answer comes from the Lord - Prov. 16:1  
**A harsh word stirs up anger**  
A wrathful man stirs up strife - Prov. 15:18  
A furious man abounds in transgression - Prov. 29:22  
**The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly**  
The lips of the wise preserve them - Prov. 14:3  
The lips of the wise disburse knowledge - Prov. 15:7  
**The mouth of fools pours forth foolishness**

**b. Righteous living causes one to remember the Lord sees all things - 15:3-4**

**The eyes of the Lord are in every place**  
**The Lord keeps watch on the evil**  
Unbelievers will be judged for their evil works - Rev. 20:13  
**The Lord keeps watch on the good**  
**A wholesome tongue is a tree of life**  
The tongue of the wise is health - Prov. 12:18  
**A perverse tongue breaks the spirit**

**c. Righteous living causes one to receive correction - 15:5-6**

**A fool despises the instruction of his father**  
**The son who receives correction is prudent**  
He that hears reproof gets understanding - Prov. 15:31-32  
**In the house of the righteous there is much treasure**  
**In the income of the wicked is trouble**

**d. Righteous living speak to both man and God - 15:7-8**

**The lips of the wise disburse knowledge**  
The tongue of the wise promotes health - Prov. 12:18  
Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise - Prov. 22:17  
**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**  
Such as are upright are His delight - Prov. 11:20

## 20. Righteous living helps us to develop a joyful heart - 15:9-16

### a. Righteous living avoids the way of the wicked - 15:9-10

**The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord**  
**The Lord loves him who follows righteousness**  
Those who pursue righteousness find life - Prov. 21:20  
**Harsh discipline is for him who forsakes the way**  
Poverty and shame come to him who rejects discipline - Prov. 13:18  
**The one who hates correction will die**  
He who is careless of his ways shall die - Prov. 19:16

### b. Righteous living causes one to go to the wise - 15:11-12

**Hell and destruction are before the Lord**  
Hell and destruction are never full - Prov. 27:20  
**Even more before the Lord are the hearts of men**  
The Lord tests the hearts of men - Prov. 17:3  
**A scoffer does not love one who corrects him**  
A scoffer hates rebuke - Prov. 9:7-8  
**A scoffer will not go to the wise**

### c. Righteous living impacts the heart - 15:13-14

**A merry heart makes a cheerful face**  
A joyful heart does good like medicine - Prov. 17:22  
The righteous sing and rejoice - Prov. 29:6  
**By sorrow of heart the spirit is broken**  
The Lord heals those who are broken in heart - Ps. 147:3  
**The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge**  
The prudent man wants to understand his way - Prov. 14:8  
Wisdom rests in the heart of him that has understanding - Prov. 14:33  
**The mouth of fools feeds on foolishness**

### d. Righteous living causes one to rest in the Lord - 15:15-16

**All of the days of the afflicted are evil**  
**The one who has a merry heart has a continual feast**  
True joy comes from the Lord - Hab. 3:17-18  
**Better is a little with the fear of the Lord**  
**Than great treasure with trouble**

**21. Righteous living causes one to walk upright - 15:17-24**

**a. Righteous living causes one to act in love - 15:17-18**

**It is better to have a dinner of vegetables where love is  
Than to have a dinner with a fatted calf where hatred is**

**A wrathful man stirs up strife**

He who has a proud heart stirs up strife - Prov. 28:25

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

**One who is slow to anger brings peace to contention**

A soft answer turns away wrath - Prov. 15:1

**b. Righteous living causes one to be upright and wise - 15:19-20**

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

In this case his hedge was full of thorns - Prov. 24:30-31

**The way of the upright is a highway**

This is a highway already prepared - Is. 62:10

**A wise son makes a father glad**

A wise son makes a glad father - Prov. 10:1

In fact both the father and mother rejoice - Prov. 23:24-25

**A foolish son despises his mother**

And the father has no joy - Prov. 17:21

He treats his mother with contempt - Prov. 19:16

**c. Righteous living causes one to seek wise counselors - 15:21-22**

**Folly is joy to him who lacks discernment**

The heart of fools proclaims foolishness - Prov. 12:23

**A man of understanding walks uprightly**

One who walks uprightly walks in safety - Prov. 10:9

**Without counsel, plans are frustrated**

**In the multitude of counselors plans are established**

**d. Righteous living causes one to put spiritual life first - 15:23-24**

**A man has joy by the answer of his mouth**

**A word spoken in due season, how good it is**

A word spoken at proper times is good - Prov. 17:17

**The way of life winds upward for the wise**

**The wise turn away from hell below**

**22. Righteous living causes our prayers to be heard - 15:25-33**

**a. Righteous living causes one to think godly thoughts - 15:25-26**

**The Lord will destroy the house of the proud**  
**The Lord will establish the boundary of the widow**  
The Lord stands to judge or plead - Is. 3:13  
**The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord**  
**The words of the pure are pleasant**  
He that loves pureness of heart speaks grace - Prov. 22:10

**b. Righteous living affects both actions and words - 15:27-28**

**The one who is greedy gains troubles for his house**  
**The one who hates bribes will live**  
**The heart of the righteous studies how to answer**  
This is so that he will speak truth - Prov. 8:7  
**The mouth of the wicked pours forth evil**

**c. Righteous living causes the Lord to hear our prayer - 15:29-30**

**The Lord is far from the wicked**  
**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**  
A merry heart does good like medicine - Prov. 17:22  
**A good report makes the bones healthy**  
A good report is based on good insight - Prov. 4:2

**d. Righteous living causes one to receive instruction with humility - 15:31-33**

**The ear who hears the rebukes of life will be among the wise**  
Those who hear the reproof of the Lord will have His Spirit - Prov. 1:23  
**The one who lets go of instruction despises his own soul**  
**The one who heeds a rebuke gets understanding**  
Those who hear reproof are in the way of life - Prov. 8:23  
**The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom**  
They receive instruction and become wise - Prov. 8:33  
**Before honor comes humility**  
Humility is the opposite of pride - Prov. 18:12  
Humility brings riches, honor and life - Prov. 22:4

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

**1. Righteous living comes from a transformed heart - 16:1-9**

**a. The Lord is the One who really knows us - 16:1-2**

**The plans of the heart belong to man**  
These plans are from the inner man - Prov. 27:19  
**The answer of the tongue is from the Lord**  
The response comes from the Lord - Mic. 3:7  
**All the ways of man are pure in his own eyes**  
**The Lord weighs the spirits**  
God knows the true purpose of the plans of man - Prov. 21:2

**b. The Lord is the One who guides our works - 16:3-4**

**We are to commit our works to the Lord**  
The works of the virtuous woman caused her to be praised - Prov. 31:31  
**Then our thoughts will be established**  
Every purpose is established by counsel - Prov. 20:18  
**The Lord has made all people for Himself**  
**The Lord made the wicked for the day of doom**

**c. The Lord is the One who paid for our sin - 16:5-6**

**Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord**  
**Though they join forces none will be unpunished**  
**In mercy and truth atonement is provided for iniquity**  
By mercy and truth sin is purged - Is. 6:7  
**By the fear of the Lord one departs from evil**

**d. The Lord is the One that we want to please - 16:7-9**

**When a man's ways please the Lord**  
The Lord is delighted when our ways please Him - Prov. 3:12  
The Father is especially delighted with Christ - Is. 42:1  
**He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him**  
**Better is a little with righteousness**  
**Than vast revenues without justice**  
**A man's heart plans his way**  
**The Lord directs his steps**

## 2. Righteous living causes us to let the Lord lead our steps - 16:10-17

### a. The king speaks with authority - 16:10-11

**Divination is on the lips of the king**

God allows all government authorities - Rom. 13:1

**The mouth of the king must not transgress in judgment**

God said a king must not sin against God - Neh. 13:27

**Honest weights and scales are the Lord's**

The Lord used the original scales - Is. 40:12

**All the weights in the bag are His work**

### b. The king wants people who speak what is right - 16:12-13

**It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness**

Wickedness is anything opposite God's character - Ps. 5:4

**A throne is established by righteousness**

This means that a king judges faithfully - Prov. 25:5; 29:14

**Righteous lips are the delight of kings**

The one who speaks with grace is the friend of the king - Prov. 22:11

**Kings love the one who speaks what is right**

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

### c. The king has the power of life and death - 16:14-15

**As messengers of death is the king's wrath**

Many kings can give a death sentence - Es. 7:7-10

**A wise man will appease the wrath of the king**

A soft answer turns away wrath - Prov. 15:1

**In the light of the king's face is life**

He that earnestly seeks good finds favor - Prov. 11:27

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

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

### d. The upright person preserves his soul - 16:16-17

**Much better is wisdom than gold**

**Good understanding is to be chosen rather than silver**

**The highway of the upright is to depart from evil**

**He who keeps his way preserves his soul**

He that keeps the commandment keeps his soul - Prov. 19:16

### 3. Righteous living is the result of a humble spirit - 16:18-25

#### a. The humble spirit is what God seeks - 16:18-19

**Pride goes before destruction**

He who exalts himself seeks destruction - Prov. 17:19

**A proud spirit before a fall**

Before destruction the heart of man is haughty - Prov. 18:12

**It is better to be a humble spirit with the lowly**

God gives grace to the humble - Prov. 3:34

**Then to divide the spoil of the proud**

Sinners may try to entice us - Prov. 1:10-13

#### b. The wise in heart will speak for the Lord - 16:20-21

**He who heeds the word wisely will find good**

**Whoever trusts in the Lord, happy is he**

We know where we are going when we trust in the Lord - Prov. 3:5-6

The one who puts his trust in the Lord will be safe - Prov. 29:25

**The wise in heart will be called prudent**

**The sweetness of the lips increases learning**

#### c. The heart of the wise teaches his words - 16:22-23

**Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it**

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

**The correction of fools is folly**

**The heart of the wise teaches his mouth**

**The heart adds learning to his lips**

#### d. The words of the wise minister to others - 16:24-25

**Pleasant words are like a honeycomb**

The honeycomb is very sweet - Ps. 19:10

**Pleasant words are sweetness to the soul**

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

**Pleasant words are health to the bones**

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

**There is a way that seems right to a man**

That way seems right to a man - Prov. 14:12

**The end of that way is death**

#### 4. Righteous living gives one rule over his spirit - 16:26-33

##### a. The worker has a purpose in his work - 16:26

**The worker who works, works hard for himself**  
**The worker is driven by his hungry mouth**

##### b. An evil man speaks evil words - 16:27-28

**An ungodly man digs up evil**  
An ungodly witness scorns justice - Prov. 19:28  
**The evil is on his lips like a burning fire**  
A worthless person walks with a perverse mouth - Prov. 6:12  
**A perverse man sows strife**  
A contentious man kindles strife - Prov. 26:21  
**A whisperer separates the best of friends**  
The words of a talebearer are like a fire - Prov. 26:20-22

##### c. The violent man works to do evil - 16:29-30

**A violent man entices his neighbor**  
The earth was filled with violence before the flood - Gen. 6:11-13  
**The violent man leads his neighbor in a way that is not good**  
**The violent man winks with his eye to devise perverse things**  
**The violent man purses his lips and brings about evil**  
Violence covers the mouth of the wicked - Prov. 10:6

##### d. The righteous man is blessed by the Lord - 16:31-33

**The silver-haired head is a crown of glory**  
This is the beauty of old men - Prov. 20:29  
**This is true when it is found in the way of righteousness**  
The righteous still bear fruit in old age - Psalm 92:14  
**The man who is slow to anger is better than the mighty**  
The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger - Prov. 19:11  
A man who is slow to anger has great understanding - Prov. 14:29  
**He who rules his spirit is better than he who takes a city**  
A man of understanding is of a calm spirit - Prov. 17:27  
One who doesn't rule his spirit is like a city with broken walls - Prov. 25:28  
**The lot is cast in the lap**  
**Every decision by casting lots is from the Lord**

## 5. Righteous living affects our talk - 17:1-9

### a. The Lord tests our hearts - 17:1-3

**A piece of dry bread is good when there is quietness**

**A house full of feasting with strife is not good**

It is better to have little food than a feast with strife - Prov. 15:17

**A wise servant will rule over a son that causes shame**

The fool shall be servant to the wise at heart - Prov. 11:29

**A wise servant will share an inheritance among brothers**

**The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold**

**The Lord uses both to test our hearts**

God uses testing to prepare godly leaders - Ps. 66:10-12

### b. A warning about those who speak evil - 17:4-5

**An evildoer listens to those who speak lies**

He hopes to get treasure by lies - Prov. 21:6

**A liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue**

**One who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker**

The one who shows mercy to the poor will be happy - Prov. 14:21

The one who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker - Prov. 14:31

**He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished**

### c. Some things bring glory and others shame - 17:6-7

**Grandchildren are the crown of old men**

**The glory of children is their father**

The honor or rank varies with age - Prov. 20:29

**Excellent speech does not describe a fool**

**Lying lips should not describe a prince**

We realize some princes may have lying lips - Ps. 146:3-4

### d. One who knows when not to speak seeks love - 17:8-9

**A present is a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor**

**Wherever he turns, he prospers**

**He who covers a transgression seeks love**

The one who does not gossip about sin - James 5:19-20

**He who repeats a matter separates friends**

An ungodly man digs up evil about others - Prov. 16:28

## **6. Righteous living develops genuine friends - 17:10-18**

### **a. Friends receive rebuke - 17:10-11**

#### **Rebuke is effective for a wise man**

Humility is a key to develop a wise man - Prov. 15:31-33

**A hundred blows does not change a fool**

A fool lacks a teachable spirit - Prov. 9:7-8

**An evil man seeks only rebellion**

The heart of the evil man is set on destruction - Prov. 24:1-2

**An evil man will have a cruel messenger sent against him**

### **b. Friends avoid certain things - 17:12-13**

**A man can meet a bear robbed of her cubs**

**Easier than meeting a fool in his folly**

**There are those who reward evil for good**

**Evil will not depart from their house**

Evil will return to him who does evil - Prov. 26:27

### **c. Friends avoid strife - 17:14-15**

**The beginning of strife is like releasing water**

**It is important to stop contention before a quarrel starts**

**He who justifies the wicked is an abomination to the Lord**

**He who condemns the just is an abomination to the Lord**

### **d. Friends love at all times - 17:16-18**

**Why is there in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom**

The Lord is the source of all wisdom - James 1:5-8

**A fool has no heart for wisdom**

The fool does not even want wisdom - Prov. 4:7-10

This is because he leaves God out of his thinking - Ps. 14:1; 53:1

**A friend loves at all times**

A man sharpens the countenance of his friend - Prov. 27:17

A true friend gives hearty counsel - Prov. 27:9

**A brother is born for adversity**

**A man lacking understanding shakes hands in a pledge**

**A man lacking understanding become surety for his friend**

Solomon warned to avoid surety - Prov. 6:1-4

**7. Righteous living develops a calm spirit - 17:19-28**

**a. Many people speak words that bring conflict - 17:19-21**

**One who loves transgression loves strife**  
Pride is the source of contention - Prov. 13:10  
**One who boasts about his large gateway seeks destruction**  
The rich made large front doors - Jer. 22:13-14  
**One who has a deceitful heart finds no good**  
One with a deceitful heart departs from the Lord - Ps. 101:4  
**One who has a perverse tongue falls into evil**  
**One who begets a scoffer does so to his sorrow**  
**One who is the father of a fool has no joy**

**b. Many people break the spirit of others - 17:22-23**

**A merry heart does good like medicine**  
A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance - Prov. 15:13  
**A broken spirit dries the bones**  
A broken (smitten) spirit who can bear - Prov. 18:14  
**A wicked man receives a bribe behind the back**  
**He receives the bribe to pervert justice**

**c. Wisdom and foolishness are opposites - 17:24-26**

**Wisdom is in the sight of him who has understanding**  
Wisdom and understanding often go together - Prov. 1:5  
**The eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth**  
**A foolish son is a grief to his father**  
**A foolish son brings bitterness to his mother**  
**To punish the righteous is not good**  
**To strike princes for their uprightness is not good**

**d. Wisdom causes one to be careful with his words - 17:27-28**

**A man with knowledge spares his words**  
One who restrains his words is wise - Prov. 10:19  
**A man of understanding is of a calm spirit**  
A man of understanding holds his peace - Prov. 11:12  
**A fool is counted wise when he holds his peace**  
**When a fool shuts his lips he is considered perceptive**

## **8. Righteous living avoids destructive behavior - 18:1-8**

### **a. The danger of serving self - 18:1-2**

**A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire**  
He that exalts himself wants his own way - Prov. 17:19  
**A man who isolates himself rages against all wise judgment**  
**A fool has no delight in understanding**  
**A fool only wants to express his own opinions**  
The fool has no idea what will actually happen - Eccl. 10:12-14

### **b. The result of wicked actions - 18:3**

**The wicked brings contempt when he comes**  
Reproach and contempt go together - Ps. 119:22  
**Dishonor (shame) causes a reproach**  
With pride also comes shame - Prov. 11:2

### **c. The ways our actions and words affect - 18:4-5**

**The words of a man's mouth are deep waters**  
Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water - Prov. 20:5  
**The wellspring of wisdom is a flowing brook**  
The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life - Prov. 14:27  
Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it - Prov. 16:22  
**It is not good to show partiality to the wicked**  
We are not to show partiality to the rich - James 2:1-10  
**It is not good to overthrow the righteous in judgment**

### **d. The results of foolish talking - 18:6-8**

**A fool's lips enter into contention**  
He is perverse in what he says - Prov. 19:1  
**A fool's mouth calls for blows**  
**The mouth of fools pours out foolishness - Prov. 15:2**  
**A fool's mouth is his destruction**  
A fool let out all of his feelings - Prov. 29:11  
**A fools lips are the snare of his soul**  
**The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles**  
Do not speak in the hearing of a fool - Prov. 23:9  
**Such words go down into the inner man**

## 9. Righteous living is lived in humility - 18:9-16

### a. The results of being a lazy worker 18:9

**Some are slothful (slack) in their work**

A person who does not finish what he starts - Prov. 24:10

**The slothful is a brother to him who is a great destroyer**

He is a brother to the one who steals from his parents - Prov. 28:24

### b. The difference between spiritual and physical wealth - 18:10-11

**God is a strong tower of protection**

**The righteous run to Him and are safe**

**The rich man's wealth is his strong city**

**Like a high wall is a rich man's own esteem**

### c. The attitude that brings honor - 18:12

**Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty**

To praise himself with his words - Prov. 17:19

**Before honor is humility**

Humility causes a person to be honored - Prov. 15:33

### d. The way our spirit within affects us - 18:13-14

**Some people answer a matter before they hear it**

One who answers before he understands - Prov. 22:21

**Such people bring folly and shame to themselves**

One who exalts himself brings shame on himself - Ps. 35:26

**The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness**

The Lord sustains us when we cast our burden on Him - Ps. 55:22

**Who can bear a broken spirit?**

People have no hope when the spirit is broken - Prov. 12:25

### e. The various ways people reach goals - 18:15-16

**The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge**

**The ear of the wise seeks knowledge**

Those who seek the Lord understand all things - Prov. 28:5

**A man's gift makes room for him**

**A man's gift brings him before great men**

**10. Righteous living includes being friendly - 18:17-24**

**a. The first person to speak always sounds right - 18:17**

**The first one to plead his cause seems right**  
Such a person stirs up strife - Prov. 25:9; 26:21  
**Until his neighbor comes and examines him**

**b. Various ways to handle conflicts - 18:18-19**

**Casting lots causes contentions to cease**  
**Casting lots keeps the mighty apart**  
The Lord shows His will by the casting of lots - Prov. 16:33  
**A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city**  
**Contentions are like the bars of a castle**

**c. The various ways our tongue affects - 18:20-21**

**A man's stomach will be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth**  
**He will be filled with the produce of his lips**  
The lips of the righteous feed many - Prov. 10:21  
**Death and life are in the power of the tongue**  
**Those who love life will eat its fruit**  
The one who speaks good things will enjoy life - Prov. 8:6-7

**d. The blessing of a godly wife - 18:22**

**He who finds a wife finds a good thing**  
We are to rejoice with the wife of our youth - Prov. 5:16  
**He obtains favor from the Lord**  
God said it is not good for man to be alone - Gen. 2:18

**e. The impact of being a friendly person - 18:23-24**

**The poor man uses entreaties**  
To make requests - Ps. 130:2  
**The rich man answers roughly**  
To answer roughly without respect - Deut. 28:50  
**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

**11. Righteous living involves seeking wisdom - 19:1-10**

**a. It is good to walk in integrity - 19:1-2**

**One is poor and walks in integrity**

Integrity is much more important than wealth - Prov. 28:6

**One is perverse with his lips and is a fool**

**It is not good to be a soul without knowledge**

Rebuke a wise person and he will gain knowledge - Prov. 19:25

**One sins and hastens with his feet**

**b. Sin separates people from one another - 19:3-5**

**The foolishness of man twists his way**

The heart of fools speaks foolishness - Prov. 12:23

**Such a man frets against the Lord**

**Wealth makes many friends**

**The poor is separated from his friend**

**A false witness will not go unpunished**

**One who speaks lies will not escape**

**c. Many want friends with influence - 19:6-7**

**Many entreat the favor of nobility**

**Every man is a friend to one who gives gifts**

A man's gift makes room for him - Prov. 18:16

**All the brothers of the poor hate him**

**The friends of the poor go far from him**

**The poor may pursue but they abandon him**

God has chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith - James 2:5

**d. A wise man will get wisdom and understanding - 19:8-10**

**One who gets wisdom loves his own soul**

The knowledge of wisdom is sweet to the soul - Prov. 24:12

**One who keeps understanding will find good**

He will walk in the way of life - Prov. 10:17

**A false witness will not go unpunished**

**He who speaks lies shall perish**

**Luxury is not fitting for a fool**

**It is not fitting for a servant to rule over princes**

**12. Righteous living will lead us to be slow to anger - 19:11-20**

**a. Understanding has many benefits - 19:11-12**

**The discretion of man makes him slow to anger  
His glory is to overlook a transgression  
The king's wrath is like a roaring lion  
The king's favor is like dew on the grass**

**b. Families can bless or cause sorrow - 19:13-16**

**A foolish son is the ruin of his father  
The contentions of a wife are a continual dripping**  
It is better to live in the wilderness than with a contentious wife - Prov. 21:19  
A contentious woman is like continual dripping on a very rainy day - Prov. 27:15  
**Houses and riches are an inheritance from fathers  
A prudent wife is from the Lord**  
A prudent person acts wisely - Prov. 16:20  
**Laziness casts one into a deep sleep**  
A lazy person is like one who is really sleeping - I Sam. 26:12  
**An idle person will suffer hunger  
He who keeps the commandments keeps his soul  
He who is careless of his ways will die**

**c. The Lord sees what we do - 19:17-18**

**He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord**  
He who honors the Lord has mercy on the needy - Prov. 14:31  
**The Lord will pay back what he has given  
Discipline your son while there is hope**  
Correct your son and he will give you rest - Prov. 29:17  
**Do not set your heart on his destruction**

**d. The Lord tells how to be wise in our latter days - 19:19-20**

**A man of great wrath will suffer punishment**  
A person who gets very angry will end up paying for it - II Kings 23:33  
**A man of great wrath will need to be rescued again and again  
Listen to counsel and receive instruction**  
**These things will cause you to be wise in your latter days**  
One who listens and obeys counsel is wise - Prov. 12:15

### 13. Righteous living causes us to fear the Lord - 19:21-29

#### a. The Lord will lead us as we fear Him - 19:21-23

**There are many plans in the heart of a man**  
Commit your works to the Lord and your thoughts will be established - Prov. 16:3  
**Nevertheless it is the Lord's counsel that will stand**  
There is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the Lord - Prov. 21:30  
**What is desired in a man is kindness**  
Mercy and truth belong to those who do good - Prov. 14:22  
**A poor man is better than a liar**  
**The fear of the Lord leads to life**  
By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, honor and life - Prov. 22:4  
**He who has life will abide in satisfaction**  
The ear that hears the rebukes of life will abide among the wise - Prov. 15:31  
**He will not be visited with evil**

#### b. A lazy man and a scoffer need correction - 19:24-25

**A lazy man buries his hand in the bowl**  
**The lazy man will not so much as bring it to his mouth again**  
The lazy man is so lazy that he is too lazy to eat - Prov. 26:15  
**Strike the scoffers and the simple will become wary**  
The simple will receive instruction by what he sees - Prov. 15:5  
**Rebuke one who has understanding and he will discern knowledge**  
Rebuke a wise man and he will love you - Prov. 9:8

#### c. A son is warned about sinful living - 19:26-27

**One who mistreats his father and chases away his mother**  
**Is a son who causes shame and brings reproach**  
**If you cease listening to instruction, my son**  
**You will stray from the words of knowledge**  
You reject all those who stray from your statutes - Ps. 119:118

#### d. A sinner will receive judgment - 19:28-29

**A disreputable witness scorns justice**  
**The mouth of the wicked devours iniquity**  
**Judgments are prepared for scoffers**  
**Beatings are prepared for the backs of fools**

## 14. Righteous living means that we walk in integrity - 20:1-10

### a. A warning about strong drink - 20:1

**Wine is a mocker**

A mocker (scorner) causes much conflict - Prov. 22:10

**Strong drink is a brawler**

Fermented drink causes one to yell at others - Prov. 9:13

**Whoever is led astray is not wise**

This can even cause the righteous to go astray - Prov. 28:10

### b. The consequences of wrong choices - 20:2-4

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

**Whoever provokes the king sins against his own life**

**It is honorable for a man to stop striving**

Such a person shows humility - Prov. 29:23

**Any fool can start a quarrel**

**The lazy man will not plow because of winter**

**The lazy man will beg during harvest and have nothing**

### c. the consequences of wise choices - 20:5-7

**Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water**

The wise man is slow to speak - James 1:19

The words of a man are like deep water - Prov. 18:4

**A man of understanding will draw that counsel out**

To draw water from a deep well - Ex. 2:16-19

**Most men will proclaim each his own goodness**

**Who can find a faithful man?**

**The righteous man walks in his integrity**

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

**His children are blessed after him**

### d. The reality of judgment - 20:8-10

**A king who sits on the throne of judgment scatters evil with his eyes**

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

**Who can say, "I am pure from my sin?"**

**Diverse weights and diverse measures**

**They are both alike, an abomination to the Lord**

## 15. Righteous living has an impact on children - 20:11-20

### a. A child is known by what he does - 20:11-13

**Even a child is known by his deeds**

We are to train a child from the earliest age - Prov. 22:6

**Whether what he does is pure and right**

Children are also recognized when their works are right - Prov. 21:8

This involves loving correction - Prov. 22:15

**The hearing ear and the seeing eye**

**The Lord has made them both**

**Do not love sleep lest you come to poverty**

**Open your eyes and you will be satisfied with bread**

### b. A buyer is known by his talk - 20:14-15

**“It is good for nothing,” cries the buyer**

**When he goes his way, then he boasts**

**There is gold and a multitude of rubies**

**The lips of knowledge are a precious jewel**

### c. The need for wise counsel - 20:16-18

**Take the garment of one who is surety for a stranger**

**Hold a garment as a pledge when it is for a seductress**

**Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man**

A lying tongue is but for a moment - Prov. 12:19

**Afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel**

**Plans are established by counsel**

Wise people seek counsel of others - Prov. 12:15; 19:20

**By wise counsel wage war**

### d. The danger of sinful words - 20:19-20

**He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets**

A talebearer loves to spread gossip - Prov. 11:13

**Therefore do not associate with one who flatters with his lips**

People will even try to flatter God with their mouths - Ps. 78:36

**Whoever curses his father or his mother**

The penalty for cursing a parent was death - Ex. 21:17

**His lamp will be put out in deep darkness**

**16. Righteous living is the result of letting the Lord guide our steps - 20:21-30**

**a. You can trust the Lord to deal righteously - 20:21-22**

**An inheritance gained hastily at the beginning  
Will not be blessed at the end  
Do not say, "I will recompense evil."  
Vengeance belongs to the Lord - Deut. 32:35; Rom. 12:19  
Wait for the Lord, and He will save you**

**b. Think about what you do before you do it - 20:23-25**

**Diverse weights are an abomination to the Lord  
Dishonest scales are not good  
A man's steps are of the Lord  
The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord - Ps. 37:23  
How then can a man understand his own way?  
This is why we need the Lord to direct our way - Prov. 3:5-6  
It is a snare for a man to devote rashly something as holy  
And afterward to reconsider his vows  
This is one who fears man instead of God - Prov. 29:25**

**c. A wise king practices justice - 20:26-28**

**A wise king sifts out the wicked  
The wise king brings the threshing wheel over them  
The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord  
The conscience reveals the thoughts of the heart - Rom. 2:15  
The spirit searches all of the inner depths of his heart  
The spirit makes diligent search - Ps. 77:6  
Mercy and truth preserve the king  
By lovingkindness a king upholds his throne  
This happens when his heart is in the hand of the Lord - Prov. 21:1**

**d. Wise men examine their hearts - 20:29-30**

**The glory of young men is their strength  
The splendor of old men is their gray head  
The gray head was a sign of wisdom - Prov. 16:31  
Blows that hurt cleanse away evil  
As do stripes the inner depth of the heart**

**17. Righteous living is more important than sacrifices - 21:1-8**

**a. The Lord weighs the hearts - 21:1-2**

**The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord**

The Lord showed this with Nebuchadnezzar and others - Dan. 4:34

**The Lord guides the heart like rivers of water**

Christ gave this same promise to all Christians - John 7:37-39

**The Lord turns it wherever He wishes**

**Every way of a man is right in his own eyes**

All the ways of man are pure in his own eyes - Prov. 16:2

**The Lord weighs the hearts**

The Lord is the One who weighs the spirit - Prov. 16:2; 24:12

**b. The Lord examines the hearts - 21:3-4**

**To do righteousness and justice**

**Is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice**

To obey is better than sacrifice - I Sam. 15:22-23

**A haughty look, a proud heart**

One with a proud heart stirs up strife - Prov. 28:25

**And the plowing of the wicked are sin**

**c. the Lord tells how to have true riches - 21:5-6**

**The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty**

The diligent is the opposite of one who is lazy - Prov. 13:4

The diligent has plenty because he plans and works - Prov. 10:4

**The plans of everyone who is hasty surely lead to poverty**

Such a one is not innocent in the way he gets rich - Prov. 28:20

**Getting treasures by a lying tongue**

**Is the fleeting fantasy of those who seek death**

The results of a lying tongue last for only a moment - Prov. 12:19

**d. The Lord will judge the evil and reward the righteous - 21:7-8**

**The violence of the wicked will destroy them**

**Because they refuse to do justice**

**The way of a guilty man is perverse**

**The way of the pure, his work is right**

This is true from childhood - Prov. 29:11

**18. Righteous living causes one to depart from evil - 21:9-16**

**a. The warning about contentions and evil - 21:9-10**

**Better is it to live in a corner of a housetop**  
this was usually a brush arbor or a small room - II Kings 4:10  
**Than in a house shared with a contentious woman**  
This would be the entire house - Prov. 25:24  
**The soul of the wicked desires evil**  
His heart has a desire to destroy - Prov. 24:1  
He will fall into his own pit - Prov. 28:10  
**His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes**

**b. The warning that God will overthrow the wicked - 21:11-12**

**When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise**  
This will cause the simple to become wary - Prov. 19:25  
**When the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge**  
The heart of the wise teaches his mouth - Prov. 16:23  
**The righteous God wisely considers the house of the wicked**  
The Lord sees the evil and the good - Prov. 15:3  
**The righteous God overthrows the wicked for their wickedness**  
The wicked is driven away in his wickedness - Prov. 14:32

**c. The way to be heard by God and man - 21:13-14**

**Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor**  
He reproaches his Maker - Prov. 14:31  
**Will also cry himself and not be heard**  
He will surely come to want - Prov. 22:16  
**A gift in secret pacifies anger**  
**A bribe behind the back pacifies strong wrath**

**d. The importance of doing what is just - 21:15-16**

**It is a joy to the just to do justice**  
**Destruction will come to the workers of iniquity**  
**A man who wanders from the way of understanding**  
We are told about a young man devoid of understanding - Prov. 7:7  
**Will rest in the assembly of the dead**  
The young man went as an ox to the slaughter - Prov. 7:22-23

**19. Righteous living causes us to find real life - 21:17-23**

**a. The Lord warns that some things cause poverty - 21:17**

**He who loves pleasure will be a poor man**

This is one who becomes poor because of sin - Prov. 15:21

**He who loves wine will not be rich**

Drink often leads to poverty - Prov. 7:6-7

**He who loves oil will not be rich**

Oil was often associated with pleasure - Amos 6:1-6

**b. The Lord tells how to have peace - 21:18-19**

**The wicked will be a ransom for the righteous**

It may cost him all of his riches - Prov. 13:8

**The unfaithful will be a ransom for the upright**

This is true of nations as well as people - Is. 43:3

**Better to dwell in the wilderness**

Israel wandered in the wilderness forty years - Num. 32:13

**Than with a contentious and angry woman**

A contentious woman is like dripping water - Prov. 19:13

**c. The Lord explains the source of real treasure - 21:20-21**

**There is desirable treasure**

The Lord gives good treasures - Prov. 8:19

**There is oil in the dwelling of the wise**

Often the result of godly counsel - Prov. 27:9

**The foolish man squanders these things**

He often gains treasure by sin - Prov. 21:6

**He who follows righteousness and mercy**

The Lord loves those who follows righteousness - Prov. 15:9

**Finds life, righteousness and honor**

To the righteous good shall be repaid - Prov. 13:21

**d. The Lord describes the wise - 21:22-23**

**A wise man scales the city of the mighty**

**He brings down the trusted stronghold**

**Whoever guards his mouth and tongue**

**Keeps his soul from troubles**

**20. Righteous living is very different than worldly living - 21:24-31**

**a. The Lord describes common attitudes in the world - 21:24-26**

**A proud and haughty man “Scoffer” is his name**  
The scoffer does not want to be rebuked - Prov. 15:12  
**He acts with arrogant pride**  
When he is removed it stops contention - Prov. 22:10  
**The desire of the lazy kills him**  
He ends up begging in harvest - Prov. 20:4  
**His hands refuse to labor**  
He does not taking care of his fields - Prov. 24:30-31  
**He covets greedily all day long**  
The lazy always wants more - Prov. 13:4  
**The righteous gives and does not spare**

**b. The Lord describes the sacrifices of the wicked - 21:27**

**The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination**  
It is an abomination to the Lord - Prov. 15:8  
**How much more when he brings it with wicked intent**  
Evil intent causes a fool to think it is like sport - Prov. 10:23

**c. The Lord describes how the evil talk - 21:28-29**

**A false witness shall perish**  
This is because he speaks deceit - Prov. 12:17  
**The man who hears him will speak endlessly**  
**A wicked man hardens his face**  
**The upright man establishes his way**  
He knows the way that he is going - Prov. 8:5

**d. The Lord describes how to have deliverance - 21:30-31**

**There is no wisdom against the Lord**  
**There is no understanding against the Lord**  
**There is no counsel against the Lord**  
If God is for us, no one can stand against us - Rom. 8:31  
**The horse is prepared for the day of battle**  
**Deliverance is of the Lord**  
In the multitude of counselors there is deliverance - Prov. 24:6

**21. Righteous living is the result of godly training - 22:1-8**

**a. The Lord tells about the importance of a good name - 22:1-2**

**A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches**

Names reflect character and reputation of a person - I Sam. 25:25

**Loving favor is to be chosen rather than silver and gold**

God gives grace to the humble - Prov. 3:34

**The rich and the poor have this in common**

God is the One who made us in the womb - Ps. 139:15

**The Lord is the Maker of them all**

God saw that everything He made was good - Gen. 1:31

**b. The Lord tells about the reward for humility - 22:3-4**

**A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself**

A prudent man hides himself from evil - Prov. 27:12

**The simple pass on and are punished**

The simple walk right into trouble - Prov. 7:6-10

**By humility and the fear of the Lord**

Before honor is humility - Prov. 15:33; 18:12

**Are riches and honor and life**

**c. The Lord tells how to have a wise adult son - 22:5-6**

**Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse**

**He who guards his soul will be far from them**

**Train up (dedicate) a child in the way he should go**

Train by example, love and teaching at all times - Deut. 6:4-7

**When he is old he will not depart from it**

Samuel was dedicated to the Lord from conception - I Sam. 1:20

**d. The Lord says one reaps as he sows - 22:7-8**

**The rich rule over the poor**

**The borrower is the servant to the lender**

**He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow**

We reap from what we sow - Gal. 6:7-8

**The rod of his anger will fail**

Discipline is carried out with love - Prov. 13:24

Punishment is carried out in anger - Heb. 12:11

## 22. Righteous living causes lives to be preserved - 22:9-16

### a. The Lord talks about the generous - 22:9-10

**He who has a generous eye will be blessed**  
He who gives to the poor will not lack - Prov. 28:27  
**He gives of his bread to the poor**  
**Cast off the scoffer and contention will leave**  
A scoffer is proud and haughty - Prov. 21:24  
**In addition, strife and reproach will cease**  
A scoffer does not hear rebuke - Prov. 13:1

### b. The Lord loves purity in the heart - 22:11-12

**He who loves purity of heart**  
He that has clean hands will be stronger and stronger - Job. 17:9  
**And has grace on his lips**  
This is one who speaks the truth in love - Eph. 4:15  
**The king will be his friend**  
**The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge**  
Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless - Prov. 13:6  
**The Lord overthrows the words of the faithless**  
Wickedness overthrows the sinner - Prov. 13:6; 21:12

### c. The Lord warns of traps to avoid - 22:13-14

**The lazy man says, "There is a lion outside"**  
The lazy man uses every excuse to do nothing - Prov. 15:19  
**I shall be slain in the streets**  
**The mouth of an immoral woman is a deep pit**  
She deceives with flattering words - Prov. 2:16; 7:5  
**He who is abhorred by the Lord will fall there**  
Those who listen to her face judgment - Prov. 5:3-6

### d. The Lord will deal with those who practice sin - 22:15-16

**Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child**  
**The rod of correction will drive it far from him**  
**He who oppresses the poor to increase his riches**  
**And he who gives to the rich, will surely come to poverty**  
One who wants to get rich quickly will come to poverty - Prov. 21:5

## C. Proverbs to deal with specific practices - 22:17-23:35

### 1. Hear the words of the wise - 22:17-21

**Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise**

Those who hear reproof abide among the wise - Prov. 15:31

**Apply your heart to knowledge**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge - Prov. 1:7

**It is pleasant if you keep them within you**

We are to meditate on the Word day and night - Prov. 1:2-3

**Let them be fixed upon your lips**

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

**Let them guide your confidence in the Lord**

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

**I have instructed you today**

We are to hear the instruction of our father - Prov. 1:8

**I have written you excellent things**

Really listen to those who speak excellent things - Prov. 8:6

**I have written you of counsels and knowledge**

Those who listen to counsel become wise - Prov. 12:15

**You can know the certainty of the words of truth**

Speak the things that are proper for sound doctrine - Titus 2:1

**You can answer with words of truth to those who send you**

### 2. Do not rob the poor - 22:22-23

**Do not rob the poor because he is poor**

**Do not oppress the afflicted at the gate**

**The Lord will plead their cause**

Their Redeemer is mighty and will plead their cause - Prov. 23:10

**The Lord will plunder the soul of those who plunder them**

### 3. Make no friendship with a furious 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 transgression - Prov. 29:22

**Otherwise you may learn his ways**

Avoid the path of the wicked - Prov. 4:14

**You will set a snare for your soul**

**4. Do not become surety for debts - 22:26-27**

**Do not be one who shakes hands in a pledge**  
**Do not become surety for debts**  
**What will happen if you cannot pay**  
**You will have your bed taken from under you**

**5. Do not move the ancient landmark - 22:28**

**Do not remove the ancient landmark**  
This was moving boundaries to steal land - Prov. 23:10  
**That landmark was set by your fathers**  
God will establish the boundary of the widow - Prov. 15:25

**6. The benefits of excelling in work - 22:29**

**See what happens to a man who excels in his work**  
This is one who works skillfully at his work - Ezra 7:6  
**He will stand before kings**  
Ezra had the respect of the king - Ezra 7:1-6  
**He will not just stand before unknown men**

**7. Do not desire the delicacies of a ruler - 23:1-3**

**Consider carefully when you sit down to eat with a ruler**  
**Put a knife to your throat if you are a man given to appetite**  
**Do not desire his delicacies for they are deceptive food**  
Esau sold his spiritual leadership for a bowl of stew - Heb. 12:14-16

**8. Do not seek riches - 23:4-5**

**Do not overwork to be rich**  
He who hastens to be rich shall not go unpunished - Prov. 28:20  
**Cease from depending on your own wisdom**  
Trust in the Lord and recognize Him - Prov. 3:5-6  
**Do not set your eyes on what you do not have**  
The love of money is a root of all sorts of evil - I Tim. 6:10  
**Riches certainly make themselves wings**  
Riches fade away like the flowers - James 1:10-11  
**Riches fly away like an eagle toward heaven**  
We can give nothing in exchange for our soul - Mark 8:36-37

**9. Do not eat the bread of a miser - 23:6-8**

**Do not eat the bread of a miser (one with an evil eye)**

A man with an evil eye hastens after riches - Prov. 28:22

**Do not desire the delicacies of a miser**

**He is as he thinks in his heart**

He uses his food as a snare (trap) - Prov. 29:6

**He tells you to go ahead and eat**

**His goal is to get benefit for himself**

The soul of the wicked desires evil - Prov. 21:10

**The food you have eaten you will vomit up**

**You will waste your pleasant words**

**10. Do not speak in the hearing of a fool - 23:9**

**Do not speak when a fool is listening**

**The fool will despise the wisdom of your words**

Fools despise wisdom and instruction - Prov. 1:7

**11. The Redeemer will plead the cause of the fatherless - 23:10-11**

**Do not remove the ancient landmark**

**Do not enter the fields of the fatherless**

**The Redeemer of the fatherless is mighty**

**The Redeemer will plead their cause against you**

**12. Apply your heart to instruction - 23:12**

**Apply your heart to instruction**

Let instruction go into your heart - Prov. 12:1

**Apply your ears to words of knowledge**

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

**13. Give corrective discipline to your child - 23:13-14**

**Do not withhold correction from a child**

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

**He will not die from a beating with a rod**

**You shall beat him with a rod**

**You will deliver his soul from hell**

Receive instruction to be wise in your latter days - Prov. 19:20

**14. Have joy when you have a wise son - 23:15-16**

**My son, if your heart is wise  
My heart will rejoice—I myself  
By wise and make my heart glad - Prov. 27:11  
Yes, my inmost being will rejoice  
When your lips speak right things**

**15. Do not envy sinners - 23:17-18**

**Do not let your heart envy sinners**  
The hearts of evil men study destruction - Prov. 24:1-2  
**Be zealous for the fear of the Lord throughout the day**  
The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever - Ps. 19:9  
**Surely there is a hereafter**  
There is no prospect for the evil man - Prov. 24:20  
**Your hope will not be cut off**  
The wise can look forward to their latter end - Prov. 19:20

**16. Avoid the drunkard and the glutton - 23:19-21**

**Hear, my son, and be wise  
Guide your heart in the way**  
Continue to grow in wisdom - Prov. 9:9  
**Do not mix with winebibbers**  
Wine is a mocker - Prov. 20:1  
**Do not mix with gluttonous eaters of meat**  
**The drunkard and glutton will come to poverty**  
These might also face judgment - Deut. 21:20  
**Drowsiness will clothe a man with rags**  
One who is always sleeping has poverty - Prov. 23:33-34

**17. Listen to your parents - 23:22**

**Listen to your father who begot you  
Do not despise your mother when she is old**

**18. Seek the truth - 23:23**

**Buy the truth and do not sell it  
Get wisdom and instruction and understanding**

**19. Bring joy to your parents - 23:24-25**

**The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice  
He who begets a wise child will delight in him  
A wise son makes a glad father - Prov. 10:1  
Let your father and mother be glad  
Let her who bore you rejoice**

**20. A warning about the adulteress - 23:26-28**

**My son, give me your heart  
Let your eyes observe my ways  
A harlot is a deep pit  
A seductress is a narrow well  
She also lies in wait as for a victim  
She increases the unfaithful among men  
The way of transgressors (unfaithful) is hard - Prov. 13:15**

**21. A warning about the danger of strong drink - 23:29-35**

**Who has woe?  
Who has sorrow?  
Who has contentions?  
Who has complaints?  
Who has wounds without cause?  
Who has redness of eyes?  
Those who linger long at the wine  
Those who go in search of mixed wine  
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  
It stings like a viper  
Many drink strong drink to forget - Prov. 31:6-7  
Your eyes will see strange things  
Your heart will speak perverse things  
You will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea  
You will be like one who lies at the top of the mast  
Saying; They have struck me, but I was not hurt  
They have beaten me, but I did not feel it  
When shall I awake, that I may seek another drink**

## **D. Proverbs to guide your daily life - 24:1-34**

### **1. Do not be envious of evil men - 24:1-2**

#### **Do not be envious of evil men**

There shall be no reward to the evil man - Prov. 24:19

#### **Do not desire to be with evil men**

Choose none of the ways of the evil man - Prov. 3:31

**Their heart devises violence**

**Their lips talk of troublemaking**

### **2. A house is built through wisdom - 24:3-4**

#### **Through wisdom a house is built**

Wisdom has built her house - Prov. 9:1

The wise woman builds her house - Prov. 14:1

#### **By understanding a house is established**

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

**By knowledge the rooms are filled**

**With all precious and pleasant riches**

### **3. The blessing of wisdom - 24:5-6**

#### **A wise man is strong**

#### **A man of knowledge increases strength**

Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength - Is. 40:31

#### **By wise counsel you will wage your own war**

**In a multitude of counselors there is safety**

With the well advised is wisdom - Prov. 13:10

### **4. A fool has a lack of wisdom - 24:7**

#### **Wisdom is too lofty for a fool**

#### **A fool will not open his mouth in the gate**

The gate was where the leaders of the city met - Ruth 4:1-2

### **5. A scoffer devises foolishness - 24:8-9**

**A man who plots to do evil will be called a schemer**

**The devising of foolishness is sin**

**The scoffer is an abomination to men**

**6. The need of one who faints in the day of trouble - 24:10**

**If you faint in the day of adversity**  
A brother is born for adversity - Prov. 17:17  
**Your strength is small**

**7. We will reap what we sow - 24:11-12**

**Deliver those who are drawn toward death**  
**Hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter**  
**If you say, "Surely we did not know this,"**  
**Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it?**  
The Lord weighs the spirit - Prov. 16:2  
**He who keeps your soul does He not know it?**  
He who sins against me wrongs his own soul - Prov. 8:36  
**Will He not render to each man according to his deeds?**  
One reaps what he sows - Gal. 6:7-8

**8. Knowledge and wisdom are like honey - 24:13-14**

**My son, eat honey because it is good**  
**The honeycomb is sweet to your taste**  
**So shall the knowledge of wisdom be to your soul**  
Give instruction to a wise man and he will be still wiser - Prov. 9:9  
**If you have found it, there is a prospect**  
**Your hope will not be cut off**

**9. People have different results when they fall - 24:15-16**

**Do not lie in wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous**  
**Do not plunder the resting place of the righteous**  
**A righteous man may fall seven times and rise again**  
The Lord is with us to lift us up - Eccl. 4:10  
**The wicked shall fall by calamity**

**10. How to respond when an enemy falls - 24:17-18**

**Do not rejoice when your enemy falls**  
**Do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles**  
**Lest the Lord see it, and it displease Him**  
**And He turn away His wrath from him**

### 11. The reason not to envy the wicked - 24:19-20

#### **Do not fret because of evildoers**

Do not fret because of evildoers, they will be cut down like grass - Ps. 27:1

#### **Do not be envious of the wicked**

At one time David was envious of the boastful - Ps. 73:3

#### **There will be no prospect for the evil man**

Then he went to the temple and understood their end - Ps. 73:17

#### **The lamp of the wicked will be put out**

The lamp of the wicked will be put out - Prov. 13:9

Especially one who curses his parents - Prov. 20:20

### 12. Fear the Lord and the king - 24:21-22

#### **My son, fear the Lord and the king**

We are to fear the Lord and depart from evil - Prov. 3:7

#### **Do not associate with those given to change**

Some gossip and separate friends - Prov. 17:9

Some pervert the justice of all of the afflicted - Prov. 31:5

#### **Their calamity will rise suddenly**

A wicked man will have calamity come suddenly - Prov. 6:12-15

#### **Who knows the ruin those two can bring?**

### 13. The things that belong to the wise - 24:23-25

#### **These things also belong to the wise**

A person who heeds counsel is wise - Prov. 12:15

#### **It is not good to show partiality in judgment**

A man will transgress for a piece of bread - Prov. 28:21

#### **He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous."**

**Him the people will curse**

**Nations will abhor him**

#### **Those who rebuke the wicked will have delight**

One who rebukes the wicked may cause him to turn to the Lord

#### **A good blessing will come upon them**

Blessings are on the head of the just - Prov. 10:6

### 14. The value of a right answer - 24:26

#### **He who gives a right answer kisses the lips**

Righteousness and peace have kissed - Ps. 85:10

**15. Do your work first - 24:27**

**Prepare your outside work**

The ant prepares her supplies in summer - Prov. 6:8

**Make it fit for yourself in the field**

**Afterward build your house**

The wise build both a physical and spiritual house - Prov. 14:1

**16. Be an honest witness - 24:28-29**

**Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause**

God hates a false witness - Prov. 6:16-19

A false witness declares deceit - Prov. 12:17

**For would you deceive with your lips?**

A faithful witness will not lie - Prov. 14:5

**Do not say, "I will do to him just as he has done to me"**

We are not to repay evil with evil - Rom. 12:17

**I will render to the man according to his work"**

We are to give a blessing instead - I Pet. 3:9

**17. The warning about the lazy man - 24:30-35**

**I went by the field of the lazy man**

**I went by the vineyard of the man devoid of understanding**

This is one who totally lacks understanding - Prov. 9:4

**There was the field, all overgrown with thorns**

Thorns grow up wherever they are - Prov. 26:9

**Its surface was covered with nettles**

**The stone wall was broken down**

**When I saw it, I considered it well**

He thought about it in his heart - Prov. 22:17

**I looked on it and received instruction**

When the wise is instructed he receives knowledge - Prov. 21:11

**A little sleep, a little slumber**

Do not love sleep lest you come to poverty - Prov. 20:13

**A little folding of the hands to rest**

A life of sleep will bring poverty - Prov. 6:10

**So shall your poverty come like a prowler**

Poverty will come to the one who does not listen - Prov. 13:18

**You need will come like an armed man**

Laziness causes a person to be in need - Prov. 6:11

#### 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 - 25:1-7

##### a. Kings search out a matter - 25:1-2

**The following proverbs were also given by Solomon**  
**These were copied by the men of Hezekiah**  
**It is the glory of God to conceal a matter**  
His thoughts and ways are higher than ours - Is. 55:8-9  
**The glory of kings is to search out a matter**  
Solomon sought to explain things in truth - Eccl. 12:9

##### b. The heart of kings is unsearchable - 25:3

**The heavens give us height**  
**The earth gives us depth**  
**The heart of kings is unsearchable**  
We cannot know the spirit of another - I Cor. 2:11

##### c. A good king takes away the wicked - 25:4-5

**Take away the dross from the silver**  
The dross is the waste in silver - Prov. 26:23  
**It will then go to the silversmith for jewelry**  
**Take away the wicked from before the king**  
**His throne will then be established in righteousness**  
A throne is established by righteousness - Prov. 16:12

##### d. Humble yourself in the presence of the king - 25:6-7

**Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king**  
**Do not stand in the place of the great**  
The proud desire the best places - Mark 12:38-39  
**It is better that he say unto you, "Come up here"**  
The humble will be exalted - Luke 14:10  
**Than to be put lower in the eyes of the prince**  
The proud will be humbled - Luke 14:11  
**Whom your eyes have seen**

## 2. Healthy relationships with neighbors - 25:8-20

### a. Solve your problem with another rather than going to court - 25:8-10

**Do not go hastily to court**

Do not strive with a man without cause - Prov. 3:30

**For what will you do in the end**

**When your neighbor has put you to shame**

**Debate your cause with your neighbor**

**Do not disclose the secret to another**

**Lest he who hears it expose your shame**

**And your reputation is ruined**

### b. Learn to speak fitting words - 25:11-12

**A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold**

Whoever finds me finds life - Prov. 8:35

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

It is better to be a humble spirit with the lowly - Prov. 16:19

**In settings of silver**

**Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold**

**Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear**

He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward - Prov. 28:23

### c. Be a faithful messenger - 25:13

**Like the cold of snow in time of harvest**

**Is a faithful messenger to those who send him**

**For he refreshes the soul of his masters**

Wise men turn away wrath - Prov. 29:8

### d. Avoid false boasting - 25:14

**Whoever falsely boasts of giving**

**Is like clouds and wind without rain**

### e. Learn to speak with gentleness - 25:15

**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**

**f. Eat in moderation - 25:16**

**Have you found honey  
Eat only as much as you need  
Lest you be filled with it and vomit**

**g. Learn to visit in moderation - 25:17**

**Seldom set your foot in your neighbor's house  
Lest he become weary of you and hate you**

**h. Learn to be a faithful witness - 25:18-19**

**A man who bears false witness against his neighbor  
The Lord hates a false witness - Prov.6:16-19  
A false witness will not go unpunished - Prov. 19:5  
Is like a club, a sword and a sharp arrow  
Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble  
The perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them - Prov. 11:3  
Is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint**

**i. Learn to recognize how people feel in their hearts - 25:20**

**Like one who takes away a garment in cold weather  
And like vinegar on soda  
Is one who sings songs to a heavy heart**

**3. Healthy relationships with enemies - 25:21-24**

**If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat  
We are to love our enemies - Matt. 5:44  
If he is thirsty, give him water to drink  
We are to give a blessing instead - I Pet. 3:9  
For so you will heap coals of fire on his head  
This shows kindness to the enemy - Rom. 12:20  
And the Lord will reward you  
The Lord makes even enemies to be at peace - Prov. 16:7  
The north wind brings forth rain  
And a backbiting tongue an angry countenance  
It is better to dwell in the corner of a housetop  
Than in a house shared with a contentious woman**

#### 4. Healthy inner relationships - 25:25-26:2

##### a. Share good news with others - 25:25

**As cold water to a weary soul  
So is good news from a far country**

##### b. The danger of following the wicked - 25:26

**A righteous man who falters before the wicked**  
Hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter - Prov. 24:11  
**Is like a murky spring and a polluted well**  
A spring cannot give both good and bitter water - Jam. 3:11

##### c. Avoid seeking your own glory - 25:27

**It is not good to eat much honey  
So to seek one's own glory is not glory**  
Let someone else praise you - Prov. 27:2

##### d. Learn to rule your own spirit - 25:28

**Whoever has no rule over his own spirit**  
One who rules his spirit is better than one who takes a city - Prov. 16:32  
We can be taught by the Holy Spirit - Prov. 1:23  
He will teach us all things - John 14:26  
This is the result of walking in the Spirit - Gal. 5:16  
**Is like a city broken down, without walls**  
Jerusalem had nothing to protect it - Neh. 1:3

##### e. Two things to avoid - 26:1-2

**As snow in summer and rain in harvest**  
Rain in harvest may destroy the crop - Prov. 28:3  
**So honor is not fitting to a fool**  
A fool will be destroyed by his pride - Prov. 29:23  
Wisdom gives enduring honor - Prov. 8:18  
Humility must come before honor - Prov. 15:33; 18:12  
**Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow**  
**So a curse without cause shall not alight**  
Man cannot curse what God has not cursed - Num. 23:8

## 5. Healthy actions when around fools - 26:3-12

### a. A fool will be punished - 26:3

**A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey  
And a rod for the fool's back**

### b. The proper way to answer a fool - 26:4-5

**Do not answer a fool according to his folly**  
Do not answer folly with folly - Prov. 12:23  
**Lest you also be like him**  
We can bring shame on ourselves - Prov. 18:13  
**Answer a fool according to his folly**  
Answer a fool as his folly deserves - Prov. 27:22  
**Lest he be wise in his own eyes**  
We are not to be wise in our own eyes - Rom. 12:16

### c. The warning about sending a message by a fool - 26:6

**He who sends a message by the hand of a fool**  
The heart of fools proclaims foolishness - Prov. 12:23  
**Cuts off his own feet and drinks violence**

### d. A proverb in the mouth of a fool - 26:7-9

**Like the legs of the lame that hang limp**  
**Is a proverb in the mouth of fools**  
**Like one who binds a stone in a sling**  
**Is he who gives honor to a fool**  
Shame is the legacy of fools - Prov. 3:35  
**Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard**  
**Is a proverb in the mouth of a fool**  
A fool lays open his folly - Prov. 13:16

### e. God will give the fool his wages - 26:10

**The great God who formed everything**  
All things were made by Him - John 1:1-3  
**Gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his wages**  
The wages of sin is death - Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:15

**f. A fool will just repeat his folly - 26:11**

**As a dog returns to his own vomit**  
Evil character will always pervert people - II Pet. 2:22  
**So a fool repeats his folly**  
He just wants to give opinions - Prov. 18:2

**g. These is some hope for a fool - 26:12**

**Do you see a man wise in his own eyes?**  
The ways of a man are pure in his own eyes - Prov. 16:2  
**There is more hope for a fool than for him**  
The way of a fool is right in his own eyes - Prov. 12:15

**6. Healthy relationships when around the lazy - 26:13-16**

**The lazy man says, "There is a lion in the streets."**  
**A fierce lion in the streets**  
The lazy man has many different excuses - Prov. 2:13  
**As a door turns on its hinges**  
**So does a lazy man on his bed**  
**The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl**  
**It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth**  
He is too lazy to even eat - Prov. 19:24  
**The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes**  
The lazy man has an excuse for everything - Prov. 15:19  
**Than seven men who can answer sensibly**

**7. Healthy relationships when around evil speakers - 26:17-28**

**a. The warning to avoid the quarrels of others - 26:17**

**He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own**  
A fool get involved in such conflicts - Prov. 18:6  
**Is like one who takes a dog by the ears**

**b. The warning about deceiving a neighbor - 26:18-19**

**Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows and death**  
**Is the man who deceives his neighbor and says "I am only joking!"**  
If a wise man contends with a foolish man, he will always lose - Prov. 29:9

**c. The warning about stirring up strife - 26:20-22**

**Where there is no wood, the fire goes out**  
**Where there is no talebearer, strife ceases**  
A talebearer brings divisions - Prov. 16:28  
**As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire**  
**So is a contentious man to kindle strife**  
The tongue of such a man starts fires - James 3:5-6  
**The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles**  
Their words are like something greedily swallowed - Prov. 18:8  
**They go down to the inmost body**  
The spirit searches the inner depths of the heart - Prov. 20:27

**d. The danger of a wicked heart - 26:23**

**Fervent lips with a wicked heart**  
The wicked of the earth are like dross - Ps. 119:119  
**Are like earthenware covered with silver dross**

**e. The danger of hatred - 26:24-26**

**He who hates, disguises it with his lips**  
**And lays up deceit within himself**  
The counsels of the wicked are deceitful - Prov. 12:5  
**When he speaks kindly, do not believe him**  
Even his prayer is an abomination - Prov. 28:9  
**For there are seven abominations in his heart**  
**Though his hatred is covered by deceit**  
The kisses of an enemy are deceitful - Prov. 27:6  
**His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly**

**f. Avoid dangerous actions - 26:27**

**Whoever digs a pit will fall into it**  
**He who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him**  
He who quarries stones may be hurt by them - Eccl. 10:9

**g. Avoid lying words - 26:28**

**A lying tongue hates those who are crushed by it**  
**A flattering mouth works ruin**

**B. Proverbs about wise actions in life - 27:1-29:27**

**1. Wise actions in your personal life - 27:1-27**

**a. Learning how to relate to others - 27:1-9**

**1). Talking about self - 27:1-2**

**Do not boast about tomorrow  
You do not know what the day will bring forth  
Let another man praise you and not your own mouth  
A stranger, and not your own lips**

**2). The burden of a fool's wrath - 27:3-4**

**A stone is heavy and sand is weighty  
A fool's wrath is heavier than both of them  
Wrath is cruel and anger a torrent  
But who is able to stand before jealousy?**

**3). Speak with truth to others - 27:5-6**

**Open rebuke is better than love carefully concealed  
Faithful are the wounds of a friend  
The kisses of an enemy are deceitful**

**4). Understand a truly hungry person - 27:7**

**A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb  
To a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet**

**5). The description of a wanderer - 27:8**

**Like a bird that wanders from his nest  
Is a man who wanders from his place**

**6). The blessing of hearty counsel - 27:9**

**Ointment and perfume delight the heart  
The sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel  
Listen to counsel and receive instruction - Prov. 19:20**

**b. Learning the value of friends - 27:10-18**

**1). Do not forsake a friend - 27:10**

**Do not forsake your friend or your father's friend  
Do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity  
Better is a neighbor nearby than a brother far away**

**2). Value highly a wise son - 27:11**

**My son, be wise and make my heart glad  
That I may answer him who reproaches me**

**3). Value a prudent man - 27:12**

**A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself  
The simple pass on and are punished**

**4). Do not be deceived by a stranger - 27:13**

**Take the garment of him that is surety for a stranger  
Hold it in pledge when he is security for a seductress**

**5). Recognize a false friend - 27:14**

**He who blesses his friend with a loud voice rising early in the morning  
It will be counted a curse to him**

**6). Recognize a contentious woman - 27:15-16**

**A continual dripping on a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike  
Whoever restrains her restrains the wind and grasps oil with his right hand**

**7). Sharpen one another as friends - 27:17**

**As iron sharpens iron  
So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend**

**8). Honor a faithful servant - 27:18**

**Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit  
So he who waits on his master will be honored**

**c. Learning to have a good name - 27:19-27**

**1). Your heart reveals who you really are - 27:19**

**As in water face reflects face  
So a man's heart reveals the man  
As one thinks in his heart so is he - Prov. 23:7**

**2). Avoid trying to satisfy your eyes - 27:20**

**Hell and Destruction are never full  
Hell and destruction are before the Lord - Prov. 15:11  
So the eyes of man are never satisfied  
The eye of man is not satisfied - Eccl. 1:8**

**3). You are valued by what others say about you - 27:21**

**The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold  
And a man is valued by what others say of him  
This is a warning when everyone speaks well - Luke 6:26**

**4). Foolishness will not depart from a fool - 27:22**

**Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with crushed grain  
Yet his foolishness will not depart from a fool  
The heart of fools proclaims foolishness - Prov. 12:23  
The mouth of fools pours forth foolishness - Prov. 15:2**

**5). Be diligent in the care of your flocks - 27:23-27**

**Be diligent to know the state of your flocks  
And attend to your herd  
For riches are not forever  
Nor does a crown endure to all generations  
When the hay is removed and the tender grass shows itself  
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  
And the nourishment of your maidservants**

**2. Wise actions in relation to the law - 28:1-10**

**a. The difference between the wicked and the righteous - 28:1**

**The wicked flee when no one pursues  
The righteous are bold as a lion**

**b. The kind of leader that will cause right to be prolonged - 28:2**

**When transgression is in the land, many are its princes  
By a man of understanding and knowledge right will be prolonged**

**c. Sometimes the poor have not learned from their situation - 28:3**

**A poor man who oppresses the poor  
Is like a driving rain that leaves no food**

**d. Evil men do not understand justice - 28:4-5**

**Those who forsake the law praise the wicked  
Such as keep the laws contend with them  
Evil men do not understand justice  
The counsels of the wicked are deceitful - Prov. 12:5  
Those who seek the Lord understand all**

**e. The importance of a godly walk - 28:6-7**

**Better is the poor who walks in his integrity  
Than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich  
Whoever keeps the law is a discerning son  
A companion of gluttons shames his father**

**f. The danger of going astray - 28:8-10**

**One who increases his possession by usury and extortion  
Gathers it for him who has pity on the poor  
One who turns his ear away from hearing the law  
Even his prayer is an abomination  
Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way  
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. Learning about contrasting people - 28:11-19**

##### **1). The warning about the rich - 28:11**

**The rich man is wise in his own eyes  
The poor who has understanding searches him out  
The poor with understanding examines him - Prov. 18:17**

##### **2). The difference between the righteous and the wicked - 28:12-13**

**When the righteous rejoice, there is great glory  
When the wicked arise, men hide themselves  
He who covers his sins will not prosper  
Whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy**

##### **3). The danger of hardening the heart - 28:14**

**Happy is the man who is always reverent  
He who hardens his heart will fall into calamity**

##### **4). The danger of a wicked ruler - 28:15-16**

**Like a roaring lion and a charging bear  
Is a wicked ruler over poor people  
A ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor  
He who hates covetousness will prolong his days**

##### **5). The evil will suddenly fall - 28:17-18**

**A man burdened with bloodshed will flee into a pit  
Let no one help him  
Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved  
He who is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall**

##### **6). The importance of work - 28:19**

**He who tills his land will have plenty of bread  
He who follows frivolity will have poverty enough  
One who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding - Prov. 12:11**

**b. Learning about contrasting actions - 28:20-28**

**1). A warning to those seeking riches - 28:20-22**

**A faithful man will abound in blessings**  
**He who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished**  
Do not overwork to be rich - Prov. 23:4  
**To show partiality is not good**  
It is not good to show partiality in judgment - Prov. 24:23  
**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**

**2). The importance of rebuke instead of flattery - 28:23**

**He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterwards**  
**Than he who flatters with the tongue**

**3). The warning to one who would steal from his parents - 28:24**

**Whoever robs his father or his mother and says it is no transgression**  
**The same is companion to a destroyer**

**4). The warning to one who trusts his own heart - 28:25-26**

**He who is proud of heart stirs up strife**  
A proud look and a proud heart go together - Prov. 21:4  
**He who trusts in the Lord will be prospered**  
**He who trusts in his own heart is a fool**  
A fool rages and is self confident - Prov. 14:16  
**Whoever walks wisely will be delivered**

**5). The blessing of those who help the poor - 28:27**

**He who gives to the poor will not lack**  
**He who hides his eyes will have many curses**

**6). The difference between the wicked and the righteous - 28:28**

**When the wicked arise, men hide themselves**  
**When they perish, the righteous increase**

**4. Wise actions and foolish actions - 29:1-27**

**a. The results of wise and foolish actions - 29:1-9**

**1). The warning about hardening the neck - 29:1**

**He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck  
Will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy**

**2). The contrast of good and evil - 29:2-3**

**When the righteous are in authority the people rejoice  
When a wicked man rules the people groan  
Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice  
A companion of harlots wastes his wealth**

**3). The importance of ruling with justice - 29:4**

**The king establishes the land by justice  
One who receives bribes overthrows the land**

**4). The warning about traps and snares - 29:5-6**

**A man who flatters his neighbor  
Spreads a net for his feet  
By transgression an evil man is snared  
The righteous sings and rejoices**

**5). The understanding of the righteous - 29:7**

**The righteous considers the cause of the poor  
The wicked does not understand such knowledge**

**6). The difference between a scoffer and a wise man - 29:8**

**Scoffers set a city aflame  
Wise men turn away wrath**

**7). The danger of debating a fool - 29:9**

**If a wise man contends with a foolish man  
Whether the fool rages or laughs, there is no peace**

**b. The blessings when we do what is right - 29:10-18**

**1). Different attitudes toward the blameless - 29:10**

**The bloodthirsty hate the blameless**  
They want to destroy the innocent - Prov. 1:11  
**The upright seek the well-being of the blameless**

**2). Different ways of dealing with feelings - 29:11**

**A fool vents all of his feelings**  
This includes speaking slander - Prov. 10:18  
**A wise man holds his feelings back**

**3). The danger of listening to lies - 29:12**

**If a ruler pays attention to lies**  
**All of his servants become wicked**

**4). The concern of God for the poor - 29:13-14**

**The poor man and the oppressor have one thing in common**  
**The Lord gives light to the eyes of both**  
**The king who judges the poor with truth**  
**His throne will be established forever**

**5). The importance of discipline for a child - 29:15-17**

**The rod and rebuke give wisdom**  
**A child left to himself brings shame to his mother**  
**When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increases**  
**The righteous will see their fall**  
**Correct your son and he will give you rest**  
**Yes, he will give delight to your soul**

**6). The consequence when people do not hear the Word - 29:18**

**Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint**  
A revelation is a message from God - Dan. 1:17; Hos. 12:10  
**But happy is he who keeps the law**  
That is why we are to teach the Word of the Lord - Ps. 119:1

**c. the consequences when we do wrong - 29:19-27**

**1). The need for correction for a servant - 29:19**

**A servant will not be corrected by mere words  
Though the servant understands, he will not respond**

**2). The danger of speaking before thinking - 29:20**

**Do you see a man that is hasty in his words?  
There is more hope for a fool than for him**

**3). The importance of kindness to a servant - 29:21**

**He who pampers a servant from childhood  
Will see him become like a son in the end**

**4). The danger of anger or pride - 29:22-23**

**An angry man stirs up strife  
A furious man abounds in transgression  
A man's pride will bring him low  
The humble in spirit will retain honor**

**5). A partner of a thief hates his life - 29:24**

**Whoever is a partner with a thief hates his own life  
He swears to tell the truth, but reveals nothing**

**6). The importance of trusting the Lord - 29:25-26**

**The fear of man brings a snare  
This is a fear of man instead of God - I Sam. 14:15  
Whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe  
Many seek the ruler's favor  
But justice for man comes from the Lord**

**7). The difference between the unjust and the upright - 29:27**

**An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous  
He who is upright in the way is an abomination to the wicked**

**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 one lacking knowledge of God - 30:1-3**

**The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, *his* utterance.  
This man declared to Ithiel—to Ithiel and Ucal.  
Surely I am more stupid than any man  
I do not have the understanding of man  
I never learned wisdom  
Nor have knowledge of the Holy One**

**b. Who is the Creator? - 30:4**

**Who has ascended into heaven, or descended?  
Who has gathered the wind in His fists?  
Who has bound the waters in a garment?  
Who has established all the ends of the earth?  
What *is* His name, and what *is* His Son's name, if you know?**

**c. The purity of the Word of God - 30:5-6**

**Every Word of God is pure  
He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him  
Do not add to His words  
Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar**

**d. Two things to desire to avoid - 30:7-9**

**Two things I request of you  
(Deprive me not before I die)  
Remove falsehood and lies far from me  
Give me neither poverty nor riches  
Feed me with the food allotted to me  
Lest I be full and deny you  
And say, "Who is the Lord?"  
Or lest I be poor and steal  
And profane the name of my God**

**e. The warning against slander - 30:10**

**Do not malign (accuse) a servant to his master**  
The word malign means to slander - Ps. 101:5  
The fool will be servant to the wise of heart - Prov. 11:29  
**Lest he curse you, and you be found guilty**  
God may pronounce you guilty of slander - Ps. 5:10

**f. The warning about a proud generation - 30:11-14**

**There is a generation that curses its father**  
The penalty for cursing a father was death - Ex. 21:17  
**And does not bless its mother**  
**There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes**  
The way of a fool is right in his own eyes - Prov. 12:15  
The Lord weighs the spirits of such people - Prov. 16:2  
**Yet it is not washed from its filthiness**  
They need to confess as David did - Ps.51:10  
**There is a generation—oh, how lofty are their eyes**  
Wisdom is too lofty for a fool - Prov. 24:7  
**And their eyelids are lifted up**  
**There is a generation whose teeth are like swords**  
**And whose fangs are like knives**  
Job broke the fangs of the wicked - Job 29:7  
**To devour the poor off the earth**  
These take advantage of the poor - Prov. 22:22-23  
**And the needy from among men**  
Those who oppress the needy reproach their Maker - Prov. 14:31

**2. Proverbs to be learned from various groups - 30:15-33**

**a. Understanding the leech and things that are never enough - 30:15-16**

**The leech has two daughters—**  
**Give and Give!**  
**There are three things that are never satisfied**  
**Four that never say, “Enough!”**  
**The grave**  
**The barren womb**  
**The earth that is not satisfied with water**  
**And the fire never says, “Enough!”**

**b. Understanding the consequences for a totally rebellious child - 30:17**

**The eye that mocks his father  
And scorns obedience to his mother**  
The consequence for striking or cursing - Ex. 21:15, 17  
**The ravens of the valley will pick it out  
And the young eagles will eat it**

**c. Understanding four things that are 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**  
The eagle is able to fly away toward heaven - Prov. 23:5; Is. 40:31  
**The way of a serpent on a rock**  
**The way of a ship in the midst of the sea**  
Ships are swift in the midst of the sea - Job 9:26  
**And the way of a man with a virgin**  
Solomon described this on his wedding night - SS 4:1-16

**d. Understanding the attitude of the adulterous woman - 30:20**

**This is the way of an adulterous woman**  
An adulterous woman offers love - Prov. 7:5-23  
**She eats and wipes her mouth**  
She uses her sacrifice to seduce - Prov. 7:13-14  
**And says, "I have done no wickedness."**  
She is motivated by bitterness - Prov. 5:3-4

**e. Understanding four things that upset the earth - 30:21-23**

**For three things the earth is perturbed  
Yes, for four it cannot bear up  
For a servant when he reigns**  
A wise servant will rule over a son that causes shame - Prov. 17:2  
**A fool when he is filled with food**  
Nabal was just such a fool - I Sam. 25:25, 36  
**A hateful woman when she is married**  
Jezebel was just such a woman - I Kings 16:31; 18:4; 19:2  
**And a maidservant when she succeeds her mistress**  
Hagar despised her mistress - Gen. 16:4-12

**f. Understanding four very small things - 30:24-28**

**There are four things which are little on the earth  
But they are exceedingly wise**

We are to learn and grow wiser - Prov. 9:9  
We become wise by walking with wise men - Prov. 13:20  
We become wise by listening to counsel - Prov. 19:0

**The ants are a people not strong  
Yet they prepare their food in the summer**

The sluggard is told to learn from the ants - Prov. 6:6

**The rock badgers are a feeble folk  
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  
Yet they all advance in ranks**  
Locusts came without number to Egypt - Ps. 105:34-35

**The spider skillfully grasps with its hands  
And it is in king's palaces**

**g. Understanding four things that are majestic - 30:29-31**

**There are three things which are majestic in pace  
Yes, four which are stately in walk**

**A lion, which is mighty among beasts**  
Christ was compared to a lion - Gen. 49:9-12

**And does not turn away from any  
A greyhound**

**A male goat also**

**And a king whose troops are with him**  
Solomon asked for wisdom to rule - I Kings 3:6  
Solomon was recognized for his wisdom - I Kings 10:24

**h. Understanding the consequences of choices - 30:32-33**

**If you have been foolish in exalting yourself**  
This is those who lift up their eyes - Prov.30:13; Luke 18:9-12  
**Or if you have devised evil, putting your hand on your mouth**  
**For as the churning of milk produces butter**  
**And wringing of the nose produces blood**  
**So the forcing of wrath produces strife**  
A wrathful man stirs up strife - Prov. 15:18

## **B. Proverbs of Lemuel - 31:1-9**

### **1. Proverbs to warn a wise son - 31:1-5**

**The words of King Lemuel**  
**The utterance which his mother taught him**  
**What, my son?**  
**What, son of my womb?**  
**What, son of my vows?**  
**Do not give your strength to women**  
Your flesh and body will be consumed - Prov. 5:8-12  
**Nor your ways to that which destroys kings**  
**It is not for Kings, O Lemuel**  
**It is not for kings to drink wine**  
Leaders are not to drink strong drink - Lev. 10:9  
**Nor for princes intoxicating drink**  
Strong drink is a brawler - Prov. 20:1  
**Lest they drink and forget the law**  
The Lord is concerned for justice for the poor - Ps. 140:12  
**And pervert the justice of all of the afflicted**  
A king is to rule with justice - Prov. 20:8

### **2. Proverbs to show why people want strong drink - 31:6-7**

**Give strong drink to him who is perishing**  
**And wine to those who are bitter of heart**  
The heart knows its own bitterness - Prov. 14:10  
**Let him drink and forget his poverty**  
**And remember his misery no more**  
Misery is usually translated bitterness - Job 10:1

### **3. Proverbs about the need to speak for the needy - 31:8-9**

**Open your mouth for the speechless**  
The person who is unable to talk - Ps. 38:13  
**In the cause of all who are appointed to die**  
**Open your mouth, judge righteously**  
This happens when the wicked are removed - Prov. 25:5  
**And plead the cause of the poor and needy**  
We are to show mercy to the poor - Prov. 14:21  
We honor God by showing mercy to the needy - Prov. 14:31

## C. Proverbs on the excellent wife (writer uncertain) - 31:10-31

### 1. A virtuous wife is trusted by her husband - 31:10-12

**Who can find a virtuous wife?**

Boaz recognized Ruth as a virtuous woman - Ruth 3:11

**Her worth is far above rubies**

Wisdom is better than rubies - Prov. 8:11

**The heart of her husband safely trusts her**

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

**So he will have no lack of gain**

**She does him good and not evil**

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

**All the days of her life**

### 2. A virtuous wife provides for her household - 31:13-15

**She seeks wool and flax**

**And willingly works with her hands**

Ruth was a model of a hard worker - Ruth 2:22-23

**She is like the merchant ships**

**She brings her food from afar**

**She also rises while it is still night**

**And provides food for her household**

A wise woman builds her household - Prov. 14:1

**And a portion for her handmaidens**

### 3. A virtuous wife is a good businesswoman - 31:16-19

**She considers a field and buys it**

**From her profits she plants a vineyard**

**She girds herself with strength**

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

**And strengthens her arms**

**She perceives that her merchandise is good**

Her wisdom is of great value - Prov. 3:14

**Her lamp does not go out by night**

She works into the night - Ps. 74:16

**She stretches out her hands to the distaff**

**And her hand holds the spindle**

**(these were used to make clothing)**

#### 4. A virtuous wife reaches out to the poor - 31:20

##### **She extends her hand to the poor**

She shows mercy to the poor - Prov. 14:21  
She honors the Lord with her giving - Prov.3:9-10  
Israel was to show kindness to the poor - Lev. 19:10  
Israel was told this would always be possible - Deut. 15:11

##### **Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy**

The early church also remembered the needy - Gal. 2:12  
Dorcas was an example of such a woman - Acts 9:36  
We are also to remember the needy - Acts:20:35

#### 5. A virtuous wife clothes her household - 31:21-22

##### **She is not afraid of snow for her household**

Like the ant, she prepares in summer - Prov. 30:25

##### **For all her household is clothed in scarlet**

##### **She makes tapestry for herself**

(this is a cover for a bed)

##### **Her clothing is fine linen and purple**

Fine linen and purple were used to honor - Esth. 8:15

#### 6. A virtuous wife has a respected husband - 31:23-24

##### **Her husband is known in the gates**

The gates were the place where the elders met - Ruth 4:1-2

##### **When he sits among the elders in the land**

Even the king sat in the gate - II Sam. 18:8-9

##### **She makes linen garments and sells them**

##### **And supplies sashes for the merchants**

The merchants were Canaanite traders - Gen. 50:11

#### 7. A virtuous wife is a woman of strength - 31:25

##### **Strength and honor are her clothing**

This is the result when one seeks the Lord and His strength - I Chron. 16:11

Blessed is the one whose strength is in the Lord - Ps. 84:5

The virtuous woman girds herself with strength - Prov. 31:17

##### **She shall rejoice in time to come**

There is joy in the strength of the Lord - Ps. 21:1

Godly wisdom will cause rejoicing - Prov. 8:30

**8. A virtuous wife is a woman of wisdom - 31:26**

**She opens her mouth with wisdom**

She speaks of excellent things - Prov. 8:6

Wisdom is better than rubies - Prov. 8:11

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

**And on her tongue is the law of kindness**

Most commonly translated mercy in Proverbs - Prov. 3:3

This is a woman who speaks good - Prov. 11:17

Mercy and truth belong to those who devise good - Prov. 14:22

Love is patient, love is kind - I Cor. 13:4

**9. A virtuous wife is blessed by her family - 31:27-28**

**She watches over the ways of her household**

She follows the example of the Lord - Prov. 15:3

**And does not eat the bread of idleness**

She is not one who is lazy - Prov. 19:15

**Her children rise up and call her blessed**

This is the reward of godly children - Prov. 6:20

**Her husband, and he praises her**

The heart of her husband safely trusts her - Prov. 31:11

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

**10. A virtuous wife is a woman of godly character - 31:29-30**

**Many daughters have done well**

**But you excel them all**

You go higher than them all

**Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing**

Beauty can be very deceptive - Prov. 6:25

**But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised**

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

**11. A virtuous wife is respected by all who know her - 31:31**

**Give her the fruit of her hands**

She is like a fruitful tree - Ps. 1:1-3

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

**And let her own works praise her in the gates**

This is the result of committing our works to the Lord - Prov. 16:3

## People in Proverbs

**Master craftsman (wisdom) - 8:30 - beside Him as a Master craftsman**

### Names that describe family

**Father - 1:8 - hear the instruction of your father**

**Mother - 1:8 - do not forsake the law of your mother**

**Husband - 31:11 - the heart of her husband safely trusts her**

**Wife - 18:22 - he who finds a wife finds a good thing**

**Excellent wife - 12:4 - an excellent wife is the crown of her husband**

**Virtuous wife - 31:10 a virtuous wife? Her worth is far above rubies**

**Mistress - 30:23 - as with a maidservant who succeeds her mistress**

**Widow - 15:25 - He will establish the boundary of the widow**

**Son - 3:1 - my son, do not forget my law**

**Discerning son - 28:7 - whoever keeps the law is a discerning son**

**Wise son - 10:1 - a wise son makes a glad father**

**Foolish son - 19:13 - a foolish son is the ruin of his father**

**Children - 4:1 - hear, my children, the instruction of a father**

**Brethren - 6:19 - one who sows discord among brethren**

**Children's children - 13:22 - leaves an inheritance to children's children**

**Fatherless - 23:10 - nor enter the fields of the fatherless**

**Servant - 17:2 - a wise servant will rule over a son that causes shame**

### Names that describe rulers

**Kings - 21:1 - the king's heart is in the hand of the Lord**

**Rulers - 8:15 - rulers decree justice**

**Princes - 14:18 - the lack of people is the downfall of a prince**

**Nobles - 8:16 - by Me princes rule, and nobles**

**Judges - 8:16 - all the judges of the earth**

### Names that describe the wise

**A man of understanding - 20:5 - a man of understanding will draw it out**

**Blameless - 11:5 - the righteousness of the blameless will direct his way aright**

**Counselors - 11:4 - in the multitude of counselors there is safety**

**Diligent - 10:4 - the hand of the diligent makes rich**

**Faithful spirit - 11:13 - he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter**

**Faithful witness - 14:5 a faithful witness does not lie**

**Generous soul - 11:25 - the generous soul will be made rich**  
**Good man - 14:14 - a good man will be satisfied from above**  
**Gracious woman - 11:16 - a gracious woman retains honor**  
**He who is slow to wrath - 14:29 - He who is slow to wrath has great understanding**  
**He who hates bribes - 15:27 - he who hates bribes will live**  
**Humble - 11:2 - with the humble is wisdom**  
**16:19 - better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud**  
**Just - 4:18 - the path of the just is like the shining sun**  
**9:9 - teach a just man, and he will increase in learning**  
**Merciful - 11:17 - the merciful man does good for his own soul**  
**Merciful man - 11:17 - the merciful man does good for his own soul**  
**Prudent - 14:8 - the wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way**  
**18:15 - the heart of the prudent acquires knowledge**  
**Pure - 15:26 - the words of the pure are pleasant**  
**21:8 - as for the pure, his work is right**  
**Righteous - 12:3 - the root of the righteous cannot be moved**  
**20:7 - the righteous man walks in his integrity**  
**Saints - 2:8 - and preserves the way of His saints**  
**The man who finds wisdom - 3:13 - happy is the man who finds wisdom**  
**Upright - 10:29 - the Lord is strength for the upright**  
**Wise - 15:2 - the tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly**  
**Wise man - 1:5 - a wise man will hear and increase learning**  
**Wise woman - 14:1 - the wise woman builds her house**

### **Names that describe people in general**

**Afflicted - 15:15 - all the days of the afflicted are evil**  
**Borrower - 22:7 - the borrower is servant to the lender**  
**Friend - 18:24 - a man who has friends, must himself be friendly**  
**Lender - 22:7 - the borrower is servant to the lender**  
**Lovely woman who lacks discretion - 11:22 - As a ring of gold in a swine's**  
**Master - 27:18 - he who waits on his master will be honored**  
**Maidens - 9:3 - wisdom...has sent out her maidens**  
**Maid servant - 27:27 - the nourishment of your maid servants**  
**Neighbor - 27:10 - better a neighbor nearby than a brother far away**  
**Poor - 18:23 - the poor man uses entreaties, but the rich answers roughly**

**Rich - 18:11 - the rich man's wealth is his strong city**  
**Servant - 29:21 - pampers a servant from childhood, will have him as a son**  
**Simple - 14:15 - the simple believes every word**  
**Silver-haired head - 16:31 - the silver-haired head is a crown of glory**  
**Teachers - 5:13 - I have not obeyed the voice of my teachers**

### **Names that describe the immoral**

**Evil woman - 6:24 - to keep you from the evil woman, from the flattering tongue of a seductress**

**Adulterous woman - 30:20 - this is the way of the adulterous woman, she eats and wiper her mouth, and says, "I have done no wickedness"**

**Foolish woman - 9:13 - a foolish woman is clamorous, she is simple**

**Harlot - 7:10 - with the attire of a harlot, and a crafty heart, she was loud and rebellious**

**Immoral woman - 7:5 - to keep you from the immoral woman**

**5:3-5b - the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, and her mouth is smoother than oil; but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword**

**Seductress - 7:5 - from the seductress who flatters with her tongue**

**Unfaithful - 23:28 - the seductress...increases the unfaithful among men**

**Simple - 7:7-10 - saw among the simple...a young man devoid of understanding...and he took the path to her house...a woman met him with the attire of a harlot and a crafty heart**

**The people who benefit from an immoral man:**

**Aliens - 5:10 - lest aliens be filled with your wealth**

**Foreigners - 5:10 - and your labors go to the house of a foreigner**

### **Names that describe the proud**

**Fool - 14:3 - the mouth of the fool is a rod of pride**

**He who honors himself - 12:9 - he who honors himself but lacks bread**

**Proud in heart (haughty spirit) - 16:18 - pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall**

**18:12 - before destruction the heart of a man is haughty**

**Scoffer - a proud and haughty man who acts with arrogant pride - 21:24**

**Cast out a scoffer and contention will leave - 22:10**

## **Names that describe those who sin with their words**

**Angry man - 29:22 - an angry man stirs up strife**

**Contentious man - 26:21 - as charcoal is to burning coals and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife**

**Contentious woman - 27:15 - a continual dripping on a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike**

**False witness - 14:5 - a false witness will utter lies**

**Guilty man - 21:8 - the way of a guilty man is perverse**

**Liar - 17:4 - a liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue**

**Perverse person - 16:28 - a perverse man sows strife**

**Deceitful mouth - 4:24 - put away from you a deceitful mouth**

**Perverse lips - 19:1 - one who is perverse in his lips, and is a fool**

**Perverse mouth - 6:12 - a wicked man walks with a perverse mouth**

**Perverse tongue - 17:20 - he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil**

**Worthless person - 6:12-14 - perversity is in his heart, he devises evil continually, he sows discord**

**Scoffer - 15:12 - a scoffer does not like one who corrects him**

**Scorners - 1:22 - for scorners delight in their scorning**

**Talebearer - 11:13 - a talebearer reveals secrets**

**18:8 - the words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles**

**Whisperer - 16:28 - a whisperer separates the best of friends**

## **Names that describe the unwise**

**Backslider in heart - 14:14 - will be filled with his own ways**

**Companion of gluttons - 28:7 - a companion of gluttons shames his father**

**Drunkard - 26:9 - like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard is a proverb in the mouth of fools**

**Enemy - 27:6 - the kisses of an enemy are deceitful**

**25:21 - if your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat and if he is thirsty give him water to drink**

**Faithless - 22:12 - He overthrows the words of the faithless**

**Fool - 1:7 - fools despise wisdom and instruction**

**12:15 - the way of a fool is right in his own eyes**

**18:2 - a fool has no delight in understanding, but in expressing his own heart**

**Foolish man - 29:9 - if a wise man contends with a foolish man, whether the fool rages or laughs, there is no peace**

**Glutton - 23:20-21 - do not mix with winebibbers, or with gluttonous eaters of meat, for the glutton and the drunkard will come to poverty**  
**Hypocrite - 11:9 - the hypocrite with his mouth, destroys his neighbor**  
**Impulsive - 14:29 - he who is impulsive exalts folly**  
**Lazy - 21:25-26 - the desire of the lazy man kills him, for his hands refuse to labor. He covets greedily all day long**  
**Miser - 23:6-7 - do not eat the bread of a miser, nor desire his delicacies, for as he thinks in his heart, so is he, "Eat and drink," he says to you, but his heart is not with you**  
**Slothful - 18:9 - he who is slothful in his work is a brother to him who is a great destroyer**  
**Sluggard - 6:6-8 - go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, which, having no captain, overseer, or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest**  
**Stranger - 6:1 - if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger**  
**Winebibber - 23:20-21 - do not mix with winebibbers, or with gluttonous eaters of meat, for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty**

#### **Names that describe the rebellious**

**Bloodthirsty - 29:10 - the bloodthirsty hate the blameless**  
**Cruel - 11:17 - he who is cruel troubles his own flesh**  
**Evil man - 17:11 - an evil man seeks only rebellion**  
**Furious man - 29:22 - a furious man abounds in transgression**  
**Guilty man - 21:8 - a guilty man is perverse**  
**Hateful woman - 30:23 - the earth is perturbed if a hateful woman marries**  
**He who is greedy for gain - 15:27 - he who is greedy for gain troubles his own house**  
**Leech - 30:15 - the leech has two daughters — Give and Give**  
**Oppressor - 28:16 - a ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor**  
**Quick-tempered man - 14:17 - a quick-tempered man acts foolishly**  
**Schemer - Prov. 24:8 - he who plots to do evil will be called a schemer**  
**Sinner - 13:6 - wickedness overthrows the sinner**  
**Thief - 29:24 - a partner with a thief hates his own life**  
**Transgressor - 26:10 - God...gives the transgressor his wages**  
**Ungodly - 16:27 - an ungodly man digs up evil**  
**Unjust - 11:7 - the hope of the unjust perishes**  
**Violent man - 16:29 - a violent man entices his neighbor**  
**Wicked - 28:1 - the wicked flees when no one pursues**