

Wisdom Series: Proverbs

January 5th, 2021

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Zoom Host: Stephanie Broussard

Introduction



Introduction



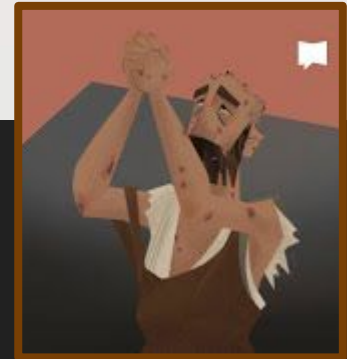
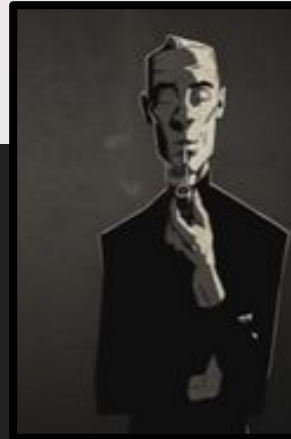
Proverbs



Ecclesiastes



Job



Video: The Book of Proverbs



Wisdom

- woven into the fabric of how things work
- Personified as a woman
- Anyone can access wisdom
- Attribute of God
- Begins with the fear of the Lord

Video - Overview: Proverbs





WISEST MAN IN THE ANCIENT WORLD
(SEE 1 KINGS 4:29-33)



PROVERBS

— A GUIDE FOR LIVING WELL IN GOD'S WORLD —

BIBLICAL WISDOM LITERATURE

- EXPLORING HOW TO LIVE WELL IN GOD'S WORLD
- WISDOM IS NOT...
LAW (THOU SHALT... OR THOU SHALT NOT...)
- PROPHECY (JESUS SAYS THE LORD)
- WISDOM IS... THE ACCUMULATED INSIGHT OF GOD'S PEOPLE THROUGH GENERATIONS



1-9 AN INTRODUCTION TO PROVERBS 1:1-9

PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

FOR GAINING WISDOM

HEBREW: KHOKMAH
SKILL, APPLIED KNOWLEDGE (SEE EXODUS 31:1-3)



THE FEAR OF THE LORD

- REVERENCE & AWE
- A MORAL MINDSET
- HUMBLE ONESELF BEFORE GOD

TEN SPEECHES FROM A FATHER TO A SON



THE MORAL LOGIC OF PROVERBS



APPLY WISDOM IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD

FOUR POEMS OF LADY WISDOM 1:20-33 3:13-20 CH8 CH9



PROVERBS ≠ GOOD ADVICE...
PROVERBS = GOD'S INVITATION TO LEARN WISDOM FROM PREVIOUS GENERATIONS

10-29 HUNDREDS OF ANCIENT PROVERBS

MARRIAGE
JUSTICE
SPEECH
CHARACTER
FAMILY
FRIENDSHIP
ALCOHOL
GENEROUSITY
DEBT
POVERTY
WORK



THE FEAR OF THE LORD PROLONGS YOUR LIFE, BUT THE YEARS OF THE CUCKER ARE CUT SHORT (10:27)

TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY THEY SHOULD GO, AND WHEN THEY'RE OLD THEY WON'T TURN FROM IT (22:6)

PROVERBS = PROBABILITIES



PROVERBS ≠ PROMISES



PROVERBS FOCUS ON



30 AGUR

I AM A BRUTE AND HAVE NO WISDOM (30:2-3)



MODEL READER OF PROVERBS

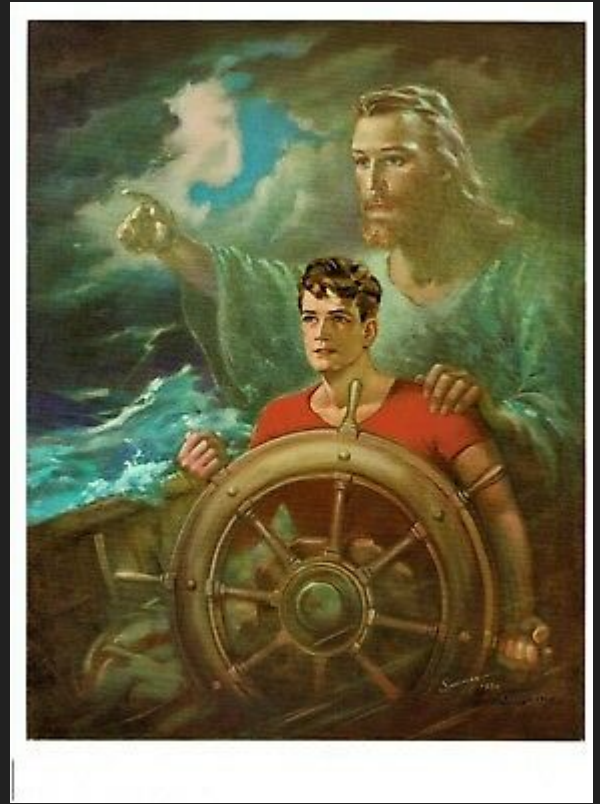


31 LEMUEL

GUIDANCE FOR WISE LEADERSHIP (31:1-9)
ALTHOUGH POEM ABOUT THE WISE WOMAN (31:10-31)



Proverbs 1:2-7 nicely sets forth the purpose of the entire book. Here is instruction intended for the young, but also for senior citizens (vv. 4-5), teaching the art of "steersmanship" (1:5; NRSV, "skill"), that is, providing instruction on how to navigate the ship of life through the world with its delights and dangers. The Greek Old Testament uses the word *kybernesis* here, from which we get the English "cybernetics," meaning "control, steer."



TEN SPEECHES FROM A FATHER TO A SON



THE MORAL LOGIC OF PROVERBS

WISDOM &
FEAR
OF THE LORD



VIRTUE,
INTEGRITY,
AND GENEROSITY



SUCCESS
&
PEACE

FOLLY
&
EVIL



SELFISHNESS
&
PRIDE



RUIN
&
SHAME

APPLY
THE

3:27-30 - Do good

5:1-23 - Sex Talk; joy in marriage

6:6-11 - The Sin of Sloth

Chapter 8 - Lady Wisdom

FOUR POEMS OF LADY WISDOM

1: 20-33	3: 13-20	CH 8	CH 9
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UPHOLDING JUSTICE

NOT GUILTY!

COME, LEARN FROM ME!

A POETIC WAY OF CLAIMING THAT WE LIVE IN A MORAL UNIVERSE

FEAR OF THE LORD & WISDOM = LIVING ALONG THE GRAIN OF THE UNIVERSE

INTEGRITY

GENEROSITY

PROVERBS \neq GOOD ADVICE...
PROVERBS $=$ GOD'S INVITATION TO LEARN WISDOM FROM PREVIOUS GENERATIONS

Chapter 9 - Wisdom & Folly



Chapters 10-29

How to read these hundreds of proverbs:

1. About probability; often true, not always
2. NOT a promise from God; NOT Law; NOT prophetic
3. NOT a formula for success (no guarantees)
4. God's wisdom revealed through human wisdom
5. God's invitation to learn wisdom revealed through previous generations

A look at a few proverbs....

- Proverbs 11:14 God Bless Our Native Land
- Proverbs 12:10 Animal Rights
- Proverbs 12:23 A Time to Keep Silent
- Proverbs 12:25 Do Not Worry about Your Life
- Proverbs 13:24; 29:15 Spare the rod?
- Proverbs 14:31 Just as You Did It to One of the Least of These

A look at a few proverbs...

- Proverbs 16:1; 20:29 Grey hair is a gift
- Proverbs 17:6 Gift of grandchildren
- Proverbs 22:22-23 Advocate for the Powerless/Pr 18 B (Jesus' healings...)
- Proverbs 23:29-30 **A RIDDLE** (alcohol consumption)
- Proverbs 25:6-7a "All Who Exalt Themselves Will Be Humbled" /Pr.17 C
- Proverbs 25:11-12 Just the Right Words
- Proverbs 29:11 Anger Management

30

AGUR

I AM A BRUTE AND HAVE
NO WISDOM (30: 2-3)



MODEL READER OF PROVERBS



GOD'S
WISDOM



31 LEMUEL

HERE'S WHAT MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME:

- GUIDANCE FOR WISE LEADERSHIP — (31:1-9) —
- ALPHABET POEM ABOUT THE WISE WOMAN (31:10-31)

YOU'RE AMAZING!

HER HUSBAND

MAY GOD BLESS YOU!

HER CHILDREN

THANK YOU!

THE POOR

AMAZING QUALITY!

THE MERCHANTS

created by the Bible Project

Closing Comments: Too Simple?

PROVERBS = PROBABILITIES

FEAR OF GOD
&
WISDOM

NO FEAR OF
GOD &
FOOLISHNESS

THINGS WILL
GO GREAT

THINGS WILL
GO POORLY

PROVERBS ≠ PROMISES



PROVERBS FOCUS ON

THE GENERAL RULE **NOT** EXCEPTIONS



LIFE IS TOO COMPLEX FOR
FORMULAS, WE NEED ALL
THE WISDOM BOOKS TOGETHER

Next Time:

Ecclesiastes

Tues, January 19th, 2021