

# **Proverbs – Be a Wise Guy for God**

## **Purposes of Proverbs**

### **Week 1**

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.* 1:7

#### Welcome

Opening Prayer  
Class Topics

Week 1	Purposes of Proverbs
Week 2	The Simple, the Mockers and the Fool
Week 3	God and Man
Week 4	All in the Family
Week 5	Win Friends and Influence People
Week 6	Hard Work Versus Laziness

#### Proverbs

What is a proverb?  
Are proverbs always true?  
Although interesting, why should we bother with proverbs?  
Proverbs 1:1-3

#### Wisdom

##### *chokmah*

Skillfulness in dealing with the matters at hand so as to get the best results  
Skillful mastery of life, Practical expertise that leads to a full and successful life

All civilized peoples of ancient Near East had wisdom traditions

##### Court Wisdom

2 Samuel 16:23

1 Kings 4:30

##### Folk Wisdom

Sayings that parents teach children to help them grow up

Proverbs 3:1-2

Proverbs includes many secular sayings that could fit into Poor Richard's Almanac

Proverbs 3:27

Proverbs also differentiates between human wisdom and God's true wisdom

Proverbs 3:5-8

Proverbs 14:12

#### Old Testament Book Organization

##### History

Torah, Pentateuch, Books of Moses: Genesis – Deuteronomy

Israel's History: Joshua – Esther

##### Wisdom Literature

Job – Song of Songs

##### Prophets

Major Prophets: Isaiah – Daniel

Minor Prophets: Hosea – Malachi

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## **Purposes of Proverbs**

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#### **Wisdom Literature**

Job

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Psalms

How is God important to our everyday lives?

Proverbs

How can we make the most of this life?

Ecclesiastes

What is the meaning of life?

Song of Songs

What example in this life can give a glimpse into God's desired relationship with us?

#### **Hebrew Poetry**

English poetry is based on

*A friend in need is a friend indeed*

Hebrew poetry is based on

Rhythm - Certain number of accented syllables per line

Assonance - Deliberate repetition of same vowel sounds

Alliteration - Juxtaposition of words & syllables that begin with same consonants

*Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers ...*

Hebrew poetry revolves around parallelism and intensification

Verses contain some form of parallelism

Second line intensifies meaning of first

Synonymous Parallelism

Proverbs 2:11

Antithetical Parallelism

Proverbs 10:1

Emblematic Parallelism

Proverbs 10:26

Synthetic Parallelism

Proverbs 3:6

Proverbs 15:3

#### **Who Wrote Proverbs?**

Proverbs 1:1 (1:1-9:18)

Proverbs 10:1 (10:1-22:16)

Proverbs 22:16 (22:17-24:22)

Proverbs 24:23 (24:23-34)

Proverbs 25:1 (25:1-29:27)

Proverbs 30:1 (30:1-33)

Proverbs 31:1 (31:1-9)

Proverbs 31:10 (31:10-31)

# **Proverbs – Be a Wise Guy for God**

## **Purposes of Proverbs**

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Solomon

Who was Solomon?  
1 Chronicles 29:23

Why was Solomon qualified to write these proverbs?  
1 Kings 4:29-34

How did he get to be so wise?  
1 Kings 3:4-12

What made him wise enough to know that he needed wisdom?  
Proverbs 4:3-7

Did Solomon try to pass on his thirst for wisdom to his son?  
Proverbs 4:10-13

Purpose and Theme

Read Proverbs 1:1-7

What 5 purposes are given for the book?

Proverbs 1:2a

Proverbs 1:2b

Proverbs 1:3

Proverbs 1:4-5

Proverbs 1:6

What is the theme of the book?

Proverbs 1:7

Are wisdom and knowledge essentially the same? Explain.

Proverbs 9:10

The Fear of the Lord

What is the Fear of the Lord?

Psalm 128:1

What are ways we can understand the Fear of the Lord?

Proverbs 2:1-5

How is the Fear of the Lord the beginning of knowledge and wisdom?

Proverbs 2:6-8

Knowing God's Will

What happens when we receive God's wisdom through a right relationship with Him?

Proverbs 2:9-10

Why should we try to find God's will in what we do?

Proverbs 16:3-4

Proverbs 3:5-8

Proverbs 20:24

Proverbial Quiz (page 4)

Closing Prayer

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## Purposes of Proverbs

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### Proverbial Quiz

#### 1. Match the two Bible Proverb halves in each grouping:

1. Pride goes before destruction,  
2. A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
3. A happy heart makes the face cheerful,  
4. Even in laughter the heart may ache,
5. Make level paths for your feet  
6. Above all else, guard your heart,  
7. Do not boast about tomorrow,  
8. There is a way that seems right to a man,
9. A generous man will prosper;  
10. A kindhearted woman gains respect, but  
11. A man's pride brings him low, but  
12. Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is
- a. and joy may end in grief. (14:13)  
b. but heartache crushes the spirit. (15:13)  
c. a haughty spirit before a fall. (16:18)  
d. but a harsh word stirs up anger. (15:1)
- e. for it is the wellspring of life. (4:23)  
f. and take only ways that are firm. (4:26)  
g. but in the end it leads to death. (16:25)  
h. for you do not know what a day may bring forth. (27:1)
- i. ruthless men gain only wealth. (11:16)  
j. a beautiful woman who shows no discretion. (11:22)  
k. he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. (11:25)  
l. a man of lowly spirit gains honor. (29:23)
- m. is like a kiss on the lips. (24:26)  
n. but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses. (28:27)  
o. wine to those who are in anguish. (31:6)  
p. for the rights of all who are destitute. (31:8)

#### 2. Fill in the blanks of these English proverbs:

A bird in the hand is worth \_\_\_\_\_  
A penny saved is \_\_\_\_\_  
A picture paints \_\_\_\_\_  
All that glisters is \_\_\_\_\_  
An apple a day keeps \_\_\_\_\_

An ounce of prevention  
is worth \_\_\_\_\_  
Better late than \_\_\_\_\_  
Better safe than \_\_\_\_\_  
Don't bite off more than \_\_\_\_\_

Don't look a gift horse in \_\_\_\_\_  
Don't put all your eggs in \_\_\_\_\_  
Don't rock the \_\_\_\_\_  
Don't try to walk before you can \_\_\_\_\_  
Every dark cloud has a \_\_\_\_\_

Good things come to those who \_\_\_\_\_  
Hindsight is always \_\_\_\_\_  
History \_\_\_\_\_ itself  
If life deals you lemons, \_\_\_\_\_  
Into every life a little \_\_\_\_\_ must fall

Laughter is the best \_\_\_\_\_  
Let bygones be \_\_\_\_\_  
Let sleeping \_\_\_\_\_ lie  
Lightning never \_\_\_\_\_  
in the same place

Look before you \_\_\_\_\_  
Never judge a book by \_\_\_\_\_  
Practice what you \_\_\_\_\_  
Still waters run \_\_\_\_\_  
The best things in life are \_\_\_\_\_

The more things change,  
the more they \_\_\_\_\_  
The pen is mightier than \_\_\_\_\_  
Truth is stranger than \_\_\_\_\_  
Waste not, \_\_\_\_\_

When the cat's away \_\_\_\_\_  
Where there's smoke \_\_\_\_\_  
You can't get blood out of a \_\_\_\_\_  
You can't have your cake and \_\_\_\_\_  
Youth is wasted on \_\_\_\_\_