

# CHAPTER 1

## ***Proverbs 1:1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;***

Son, what is a Proverb? Before you read this wonderful book and attempt to understand these Words of the Holy Spirit given through Solomon, consider the nature of a Proverb.

Our English word, according to The Oxford English Dictionary, means the following:

1. A short pithy saying, in recognized common use; a concise sentence, often metaphorical or rhyming in form, which is held to express some truth, ascertained by experience or observation and familiar to all; an adage, of a mature wise man.
2. A common word or phrase of contempt or reproach, a byword.
3. A mysterious saying that requires interpretation; an allegory, a parable.

The Bible uses the Word "Proverb" in all three ways. And the Holy Spirit's Proverbs contains Proverbs of both the first and third kinds.

Reader, Proverbs can be difficult to understand. As the definitions show, they are often metaphorical, which means they use words figuratively, not literally.

And they are often puzzling, which means they were composed intentionally with obscure metaphors to challenge the ability of the reader to discover their hidden wisdom.

They can be obscure and perplexing by design, which gives them their unique appeal and force.

So, reader you could say that God intentionally made the truths here difficult to come to grips with in order to test men's desire for wisdom.

Solomon defines Proverbs as needing "interpretation" and being the "dark sayings" of wise men (***Proverbs 1:6***).

We may almost see him admitting definitions one and three above, for metaphors need interpretation and enigmas are truly dark sayings!

Reader, to rush into the book of Proverbs naively and apply primary definitions or the literal use of words is to run amok indeed! These sayings need interpretation, which means arriving at the sense intended by the Holy Spirit and Solomon.

Jesus and His disciples further show the difficulty of understanding Proverbs. Consider the following two verses showing the obscure nature of a Proverb:

***John 16:25*** *These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.*

***John 16:29*** *His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb.*

Observe that Jesus knew Proverbs were not plain speech, and also observe that the disciples understood Proverbs were not plain statements.

Proverbs need careful analysis and interpretation for us to know the full and correct meaning and application.

### **Proverbs Will Provide Short, Exciting, And Challenging Rules For Living Life Successfully By The Wisdom Of God!**

What an exciting literary form! What an interesting way of communicating Truth! And all by the Divine inspiration of GOD!

But these are not just any Proverbs that Solomon put together, they are the Proverbs of God Almighty given to Solomon, son of David and king of Israel.

Not only trained by the man after God's own heart, but God gave him, the inspiration, by the Holy Spirit and largeness of heart and wisdom above all other men (***1Kings 3:12; 4:29-31***).

As a rich king with a peaceful reign, he explored the purpose of life, more than any other man could even attempt, as is recorded in his philosophical book, ***Ecclesiastes***, which also contains a few proverbs.

God inspired Solomon to write many Proverbs, by which he taught the people knowledge, set out in acceptable Words, even the Words of truth. Of a total of three thousand Proverbs (***1Kings 4:32***). We have just a few hundred here. And what a collection it is!

Let every reader tremble before the Word of God and rejoice at the opportunity of finding great spoil from the Mind of God.

Let your intention be learning with obedience, without even a trace of mere academic interest or knowledge for the sake of pride.

### ***Proverbs 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;***

Why did Solomon write Proverbs? He wanted his son to have the benefits of his exceptional wisdom, wonderful experiments, and insightful observations as

to the purpose and profit of man. He wanted also, to give wisdom, instruction, and understanding to you. What a wonderful gift! David said the Word of God was sweeter than honey and more precious than fine gold (*Psalms 19:10*).

Job esteemed it more important than necessary food (*Job 23:12*).

So son, how thankful are you? The wisest king ever, in perfect cooperation with the King of kings, wants to privately tutor you in the wisdom of life!

God gave Solomon more wisdom and understanding than any other man (*1 Kings 3:9-12*).

And God gave him the opportunity to experiment with different things more than any other man, for he was exceeding intelligent, rich, powerful, attractive, and had a peaceful reign, allowing him great freedom for experimentation. He wrote the book of Proverbs to share his wisdom and observations in short, pithy sayings for your profit.

God inspired Solomon to write and to share his great wisdom and social experiments with his son and the nation (*Ecclesiastes 12:9-12*).

The book of Ecclesiastes, a philosophical study of man's life, culled from Solomon's extraordinary experiences, inspired by the Holy Spirit. He describes his observations about the purpose of man's life. Solomon provided wise answers in Ecclesiastes, but he primarily taught the people, through many Proverbs.

Solomon hoped to help his son and the nation avoid foolishness in life and choose the way of The Fear Of The LORD and Wisdom.

Solomon hoped to provide the instruction and understanding that wise men could use to live a more God-pleasing and prosperous lives. He wanted to save them from the snares and pitfalls of folly and sin.

The terms of our Proverb overlap and should not be isolated altogether from each other, but consider any shades of their meaning that are unique to them.

There is a value of repetition of similar Words to emphasize the quality and quantity of the thing described (*Proverbs 1:1-6*).

In other words, these Proverbs are jammed pack full of every aspect of valuable learning that a man could desire.

God wants you to know wisdom, which is the power of right judgment. Wisdom knows what to do in any situation.

Wisdom knows the right use of the best means for the best ends.

Wisdom knows to choose the good and refuse the evil, and the reasons to do so (*Isaiah 7:15-16*).

God will tell us later that wisdom is the principal thing and we must have it (*Proverbs 4:7*).

God wants you to know *instruction*, which is the teaching of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

God will be the teacher; you will be the student. What a blessed privilege! *Instruction* is the teaching discipline of education and training (*Psalms 32:8; Isaiah 28:26*).

### **Without The Book Of Proverbs Who Would Instruct Successful Living?**

God wants you to perceive *understanding*, which is the power of accurate discernment (*1 Kings 3:9, 11*).

A man with understanding comprehends and grasps a situation, or valuable information, to properly identify their leading features and arrive at the correct knowledge of its difficulties, implications, and consequences.

Understanding is to know right from wrong, truth from error, light from darkness, integrity from fraud, and so forth.

Understanding is to perceive and approve things that are excellent (*Philippians 1:9-11*).

Though we do not get very far in the instruction of wisdom and understanding in this short Proverb, consider the most important foundational lesson: The Fear Of The Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy is understanding (*Proverbs 1:7; 9:10*).

Son, do you fear the Lord this day? Do you tremble before the Holy God of the Bible? Do you seek with all your heart to obey and please Him? There is no learning, wisdom, or understanding without the fear of the Lord.

**If** this foundation is in place, then the next thing to do is apply yourself to these Proverbs.

Learning requires an eager, expectant, focused, and a seeking, praying student.

Are you ready to consider and absorb and make personal application of each Proverb with the same desire and intensity you would have for hid treasures (*Proverbs 2:4*)?

### **Men Who Truly Desire Wisdom Will Dedicate Themselves To This Goal. *Proverbs 18:1.***

The ultimate source of wisdom and understanding is that taught by the Holy Spirit through the power of the Lord Jesus Christ (*Colossians 1:9-11*).

All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are found in Christ Jesus (*Colossians 2:3*).

Therefore, we know we have found the One greater than Solomon (*Matthew 12:42*). Blessed be the name of the Lord!

### **Proverbs 1:3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;**

Son why read Proverbs? As God inspired Solomon, He gives at least nine reasons for "why:" Wisdom, Instruction, Understanding, Judgment, Justice, Equity, Subtilty <sup>refinement; extreme acuteness</sup>, Knowledge, and Discretion (*Proverbs 1:1-4*).

These goals, all of which are vital for a successful life. In this verse we have four of them, wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity. These are four things you must learn. You must make personal application.

You were born ignorant and selfish. You have a heart depraved with perverted affections from Adam, which destroy ability to perceive and reason correctly.

Until God regenerates you with a new heart, you will not be wise or right, for your affections remain selfish and perverse. After regeneration, you need instruction to bring your mind up to speed.

Here is God's inspired instruction through the wisest man ever. The book of Proverbs will teach wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity to regenerated persons.

But you must receive the instruction, and only the humble and submissive can do that. Man's innate pride fights against being corrected and taught by another, for he presumes he is wise and right.

What is wisdom? It is the power of right judgment. It is the analytical ability to fully discern a dilemma or situation, Wisdom correctly concludes the godly and right attitude or action in response to the circumstance.

Wisdom is not correlated to intelligence, for wisdom operates on a much higher plane than mere rote memory or calculating speed of simple facts. Wisdom sees beyond the apparent discovery of the true nature of a thing or situation.

**What is justice?** It is choosing solutions that are just and righteous. It always condemns the wicked and justifies the righteous. It does not confuse the two or compromise in either direction.

Justice knows what is right and demands it with faithful integrity.

### **The Book Of Proverbs Teaches Justice By Defining What Is Right And Wrong.**

**What is judgment?** It is very closely connected to justice and often used in tandem in the Bible.

When we say, "He has good judgment," we mean he has the ability to identify error and choose right.

Judgment is not impacted by fads, fear, appearances, or other distractions. The person's judgment will cut to the essential issue and judge rightly (*John 7:24*).

**What is equity?** It is thinking and acting absolutely equal, fair, impartial, and evenhanded. A man with equity is not moved by emotions, friendships, or compensation to compromise.

Equity will not distort truth or slant matters in any direction.

Equity is meticulously fair in distributing both rewards and punishments.

Equity is equally as tough on his own family and friends as he would be on his enemies (*1Timothy 5:21*).

Though there may be some overlap in these four goals of Proverbs, the repetition does not hurt us, for it only emphasizes the great value of this book.

These traits are hardly taught anywhere else in the world. Son, thank God for your blessed opportunity and receive them!

Jesus of Nazareth had these four traits in infinite abundance (*Isaiah 11:4; Luke 2:52; Colossians 2:3*)!

Jesus' own enemies said, "*Never man spake like this man*" (*John 7:46*).

Jesus when on trial for His life with his combined religious and political enemies, demonstrated they could not produce a single fault in His very public life (*Mark 14:55-59*).

Today our LORD reigns at the pinnacle of power of the universe, and He does so in perfect righteousness (*Psalms 45:6-7; Revelation 19:11*).

### **Proverbs 1:4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.**

Why did God inspire, and Solomon write, the book of Proverbs? Part of the answer is here. These Proverbs provide subtilty <sup>refinement; acuteness</sup>, for simple people, and knowledge and discretion for young men.

Son, all men are born simple, ignorant, and foolish; without correction and instruction, they will be perplexed and punished by life. But Solomon recorded his observations and learning in short sayings to teach wisdom for life.

The simple have little understanding or wisdom. They are foolish, gullible, naïve, silly, and stupid. They lack ability to quickly and accurately discern, comprehend, analyze, and choose wisely.

These precious Proverbs can give subtilty, or prudence, to such people, which is sharp ability to quickly perceive, understand, and judge matters, even where distinctions are finely hidden. Subtle men are knowledgeable, clever, and wise.

Young men arrive as babies. They know nothing. They eat like nursing puppies, they need diapers to protect themselves. They take a year to walk, another to talk, and another to potty correctly.

By five they ride a bike, and by fifteen barely drive a car. They dream of marrying a supermodel, playing in the NBA, and driving a Ferrari. At twenty they are foolish, gullible, impulsive, naïve. They lack temperance (self-discipline) and experience. They play hard and sleep long, but they find work too hard and too long! When they do work hard, they don't know how to work smart.

They spend money, but don't know how to save it. They can instantly spot attractive women, but they cannot distinguish character. They can marry a wife, but don't know how to lead. They can father a child, but don't have a clue about training one. They can make money, but they don't know how to invest it.

What happens to these foolish and ignorant young men? Adultery, bankruptcy, crime, debt, depression, disease, divorce, drugs, drunkenness, fighting, jail, painful marriages, pornography, poverty, unemployment, vain business ventures, and premature death! All of which can be avoided by learning and practicing the Holy Spirit's wonderful Proverbs.

Knowledge is: a collection of facts, and knowing what is appropriate, effective, godly, profitable, right, and safe. Knowing God, fearing Him, and knowing God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

Such knowledge cannot come from the world; it must come from heaven; and God gave it to us in the book of Proverbs. Young men need this knowledge.

**Discretion** discriminates between right and wrong. It knows how, when, and why to do or not to do something.

**Discretion** perceives a situation and takes advantage of its opportunities or avoids its dangers. It wisely discerns

and separates factors in any matter to rightly judge its merit or morality.

### **Young Men Need Discretion To Correct Their Folly And Inexperience.**

Son, you need these Proverbs. Without them, you are going to be hurt in life, and never amount to what you could be if you knew them. With these Proverbs, you can be great, in the sight of God and men.

You can truly be successful and prosperous! These lessons are not difficult.

You must make the investment each day: To learn these Proverbs well, and you must retain their wisdom, and apply them to the specific decisions and situations of life.

### **Father, Don't Know What To Teach To Your Children?**

Teach them God's inspired Proverbs! They were inspired and written for this very purpose!

### **Anything You Have Learned In Life Is Only Valid To The Degree It Agrees With Proverbs And The Rest Of The Bible.**

What Ben Spock and the NEA believe should be taught, is a tragedy. Teach them God's wisdom for your mutual happiness and the prosperity of your family.

**If** you think you are already subtle, knowledgeable, and discreet, then these Proverbs are not for you. You are a self-deceived and self-righteous, you will meet life results soon enough.

God, wisdom, and wise men will laugh at your calamity (**Proverbs 1:20-32**).

**If** you think yourself to be something, when you are nothing, you have lied to yourself (**Galatians 6:3**).

**If** you can admit your simplicity, you need for knowledge and discretion, then these proverbs are for you!

By the grace of God, and by diligent application of these proverbial rules added to your life, you can exceed the wise and deliver yourself from the way of fools.

So, what will you do today with this instruction? For today is the first day of the rest of your life, and it may be the last! You can never recover this day to apply your heart unto wisdom.

***Proverbs 1:5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:***

God inspired Solomon to write Proverbs for the young and simple (*Proverbs 1:4*).

God also had it written it for the mature and wise, that they might acquire greater learning, to understand and make personal application, of the Words of this book (*Proverbs 1:5*).

Therefore, there is great value to study these Proverbs and their interpretations in order to attain to wise counsels. **If** you will be wise son, here is the way!

Proverbs are the dark sayings of the wise, and they need interpretation (*Proverbs 1:6*).

The effort is well worth it, for the reward is obtaining greater learning and wise counsel.

By understanding Proverbs and their interpretations, and learning the Words of the wise and their dark sayings, you will attain to wise counsels.

Men will come to you for help in intricate matters, for you will have acquired wisdom and understanding.

What is the rule for increasing learning and attaining unto wise counsels? **HEARING-HEEDING! Having EARS TO HEAR! Take heed therefore how ye hear: Luke 8:18; Take heed what ye hear: Mark 4:24.**

Even wise and understanding men must stop thinking and talking and listen instead in order to become wiser! Your age or wisdom does not matter.

To learn more and attain to the counsels of the wise, you must hear instruction from others.

Humble yourself and learn from this collection of Proverbs and get the learning and wise counsel they provide. It is your choice!

**Wisdom Is Acquired  
By The Ears, Not The Mouth!**

You have two ears, but one mouth. You should be swift to hear and slow to speak (*James 1:19*).

However, foolish man would rather speak, for they want to show others their wisdom. But a wise man, will close his mouth and open his ears, so that he might hear the instruction of his teachers and obtain knowledge.

Listening is hard for the young man and the simple man, because they are foolish and impatient.

Children are self-deceived to think they know more than parents. Without experience or understanding, they want to teach their elders.

Older men also have a problem with listening, for they think too highly of their experience. It takes only a quick look at this book of Proverbs, or a small dose of the problems among men, to reveal their ignorance.

Great men understand the times and know what ought to be done (*1Chronicles 12:32*).

How do wise men come to this illustrious position from the confusion and ignorance they inherited at birth?

Wise men listen and learn from their primary teachers, parents and/or pastors!

God inspired the Bible, which is full of wisdom for life and eternity. And God also sent parents and pastors to teach the Bible to willing hearers (*Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Malachi 2:7; Ephesians 6:4; 4:11-14*).

Son, so now comes your part! Will you listen like Israel did to Ezra, Cornelius to Peter, and the noble Bereans to Paul (*Nehemiah 8:1-12; Acts 10:33; 17:11*)? It is your choice!

***Proverbs 1:6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.***

God inspired Proverbs for you! Proverbs is in the Bible to teach wisdom to the simple and to the young man (*Proverbs 1:1-4*).

This book, can also take wise men to new levels of heights of knowledge (*Proverbs 1:5-6*).

But the wisdom in Proverbs must be carefully mined from the Holy Spirit's short, dark sayings. Most of the present generation will give up before learning anything (*2Timothy 3:6-7; 4:3-4*)!

There are no boring and stuffy theories here that are hard to grasp and apply. Instead, there are short, pithy observations about life, that can give you great insight into human experience and sure rules for success.

Noble and wise men will realize this incredible gift and apply themselves to learn these obscure sayings of the wisest man in history (*Proverbs 1:5-6*).

Solomon was also a preacher, for he used his great wisdom, social experiments, and findings in philosophy to teach his people knowledge (*Ecclesiastes 12:9-11*).

Solomon considered this collection of Proverbs a great achievement. He made the project a priority, identified

the best proverbs, and put them in order. He used only the best Words and limited them to absolute truth that were approved by God.

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Solomon chose a few hundred or so Proverbs, in the book, from the 3,000 he wrote and others he found (*Proverbs 30:1; 31:1; 1 Kings 4:32*).

### **Son, It Requires Effort To Learn Wisdom From Proverbs.**

These Proverbs are unlike the sound bites of politicians, the accounts used in most pulpits, the juvenile and sensational writing of the press, and the dumbed-down wording of school textbooks. Proverbs are dark sayings: they are more like riddles (*John 16:25, 29*).

### **A Proverb Lesson Is Obscure.**

Proverb lessons must be interpreted and applied, or you will miss the lesson buried under the surface of the pithy saying. Wisdom is waiting for those who will diligently mine the Holy Spirit's Proverbs.

Son you were born with several handicaps, which you must overcome with God's help. All men are born with depraved hearts, that lie and deceive them (*Proverbs 14:12; 28:26; Jeremiah 17:9; Mark 7:20-23*).

All the learning the world offers is vanity (*Isaiah 8:20; 1 Corinthians 1:19-20; 3:19-20; 1 Timothy 6:20-21*).

There are few teachers of wisdom left (*Amos 8:11-12; 2 Timothy 3:6-7; 4:3-4*).

Son you were born in an impatient generation. Proverbs are extra difficult for the MTV generation, many of whom were taught the sight method of reading!

This generation resents the difficulty of Proverbs, they see no reason to rejoice at finding the great spoil of wisdom hidden in the Words (*Proverbs 2:4-5; Psalm 119:162*).

This generation grieves over the effort required, they never get excited about the intellectual challenge and soul benefit, of figuring them out and applying them to their life (*Job 23:12; Psalms 119:96, 104, 111*).

Grab the opportunity son! These are the Words of God! These Proverbs will save you from trouble in life!

These Proverbs will bring happiness and success! These Proverbs will teach you wisdom, the power of right judgment in all matters of life, you will face!

These Proverbs will give you the knowledge of why things happen to others as they do!

Son, you will have understanding over other men! You will be able to teach truth and wisdom to others (*Proverbs 11:30; 22:17-21*)!

Why did God inspire dark sayings that are hard to understand? Because success, truth, and wisdom are not rights!

These instructional Proverbs are privileges by God's grace for those who humble themselves and seek them diligently (*Proverbs 1:7; 2:1-9*).

Wisdom mocks those who are not humble and earnest in the effort to search them (*Proverbs 1:24-33; 8:36*)!

Wisdom offers herself freely to the passionate seeker (*Proverbs 8:17*).

Jesus often spoke in parables, which are merely extended Proverbs. Why? To confuse the majority of his hearers, who did not deserve the truth (*Matthew 13:10-17*)!

Therefore, take care son, that you don't neglect these opportunities to learn truth and gain wisdom.

Remember, God has promised to take from you even the little understanding you think you have (*Luke 8:18; Isaiah 66:4*).

So, now you have been warned! Do you read at least one Proverb a day and diligently seek its interpretation?

Wisdom is freely offered (*Proverbs 8:1-11; 9:1-12*)!

Wisdom should be the principal goal of your life (*Proverbs 4:5-9*)!

Dedicate yourself to obtaining God's wisdom (*Proverbs 18:1-2*).

Love and learn these Words that provide great value and pleasure (*Psalms 19:7-11*).

***Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.***

This is a crucial Proverb, for the rest are wasted without fearing the LORD.

The Holy Spirit put it first! The basic foundation for learning; **Is To Fear God** (*Proverbs 9:10*)!

But fools reject wisdom and instruction, for they are proud and selfish, without regard for God. They love their own opinions better (*Proverbs 26:12*).

Rather than search for truth, fools simply want to promote their own thoughts (*Proverbs 18:1-2*).

## **You Cannot Even Start Learning Without The True Fear Of God!**

Who is the LORD? He is The Jehovah of the Bible, the great **I AM THAT I AM** (*Exodus 3:14; 6:3*).

God created the heavens, earth, seas, and everything in them in six twenty-four hour days.

When God came as a man 2000 years ago, He was named Jesus: The Christ of God, The Word (*Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; Matthew 1:21-23; John 1:1, 14*)!

Jesus Christ is Jehovah! And He is coming again soon! Coming with His mighty angels in flaming fire to destroy His enemies (*2Thessalonians 1:7-11; 1Timothy 6:13-16*).

The fear of God, is an affectionate reverence for Him and humble submission to His Word.

Fearing God is loving His commandments and hating evil (*Proverbs 8:13; 16:6; Psalms 111:10; 112:1*).

Fearing God recognizes Him as the First Cause and Last End of all things (*Proverbs 16:4; Revelation 4:11*)!

Fearing God knows His forgiveness and seeks to please Him (*Psalms 130:3-4*).

### **A Man Fearing God Trembles At His Word (Isaiah 66:2).**

### **Fearing God Is The Whole Duty Of Man (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).**

Natural men, who do not fear God, they are fools (*Psalms 14:1; 36:1; 58:1*).

Natural men's reasoning processes are perverse, for they reason in a circle from their own conceited ideas (*Romans 1:20-23; 1Timothy 6:3-5, 20-21*).

Spiritual men, who do fear God, are wise and reasonable, because their thoughts begin with faith in a Creator God (*2Thessalonians 3:2; Hebrews 11:3,6*).

The fool begins his thinking, with thoughts of other fools, but the believer begins with the Words of God!

### **Foolish Men Reason In A Circle Or By Assumptions.**

The God-rejecters knowledge and wisdom depend on their assumptions.

The God-rejecter, begins by assuming his ideas and those of other fools before him, are intelligent and rational.

The God-rejecter begins by assuming, he has made great advances in the twenty years, since he was in diapers.

The righteous man, begins by assuming, faith in an infinitely wise God, who has revealed truth and wisdom in His Word.

The righteous man, begins by thinking he knows nothing at all and needs the help of Another.

The fool cannot prove his theories. The fool calls hallucinations like evolution to be science, but he has never observed macro evolution, duplicated it in a laboratory, or adequately defined it, which is required, if it is scientific. He is a fool! And his so-called science is merely a fable (*1Timothy 6:20-21*).

The believer knows the Bible is absolutely true, internally and externally: but he cannot and will not prove it to the fool, because the fool is missing the essential factor, **FAITH** (*2Thessalonians 3:1-2*).

Son, consider faith closely: The fool has faith, belief and trust, in himself and his other fellow fools.

It takes more faith to believe man came from chaotic gases and baboons than it does to believe man came from an intelligent Creator.

The fool has faith, but it is faith in man's hallucinations! The fool has faith in lies, which is self-deception!

The believer has faith in God and His Word (*Hebrews 11:1-6*), which is self-instruction (*Proverbs 15:33*)!

How did man originate? The fool says a big bang of chaotic gases formed order, design, beauty, life, and the ability and laws to reproduce and preserve them.

The man who fears God knows the fool is a fool, because only an idiot could imagine such nonsense, and only the insane would say it!

As a humble child trusting God, the righteous man cries, "The Emperor has no clothes!" He knows God made man from dust and breathed into him the breath of life.

Evolution is the result of God-hating and sin-loving minds, given over to the devil, and it is God Himself, who blinds these fools to worship baboons as their ancestors (*Isaiah 44:9-20; Romans 1:20-23*).

Their "think tanks" today are to smoke hallucinogenic substances and see who can win the day by coming up with the most outlandish explanation, for a thing!

Son, do you doubt this accusation? How do you think they say the big bang was 14 billion years ago? They do not even know what men were doing on earth 4 thousand years ago!

God blinds men who are not thankful to Him for what they are and have (*Romans 1:20-23*).

When they give more glory to the creature than to the Creator, God gives them over to a reprobate minds incapable of managing truth, to do very inconvenient things like sodomy, abortion, child rebellion, rap, bestiality, Picasso, and same-sex marriages (*Romans 1:24-32*).

The LORD God, has committed Himself to judge and destroy such men (*1Corinthians 1:19-20; 3:19-20*).

How did the seven-day week originate? Did Neanderthal man decide he was tired after working six days and needed the seventh for rest?

The movements of the sun give us seasons and years and days, and the moon gives us months, just as God declared (*Genesis 1:14-19*).

Where did the week originate? By God's revelation (*Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11*)!

How did morality originate? Is adultery wrong?

- If not, why is polygamy wrong?
- If not, why is prostitution wrong?
- If not, why is pornography wrong?
- If not, why is bestiality wrong?
- If not, why is pedophilia wrong?

Son, how do you reason these things? Did the caveman with their theories want to protect the woman and give her a loving and secure life in a monogamous relationship of two adults? Or did God ordain marriage?

Consider how an evolutionist reasons. He laughs at sexual abstinence and virginity, while pulling very small infants apart limb by limb by abortion.

He sues farmers for housing chickens in safe cages with constant food, water, and vitamins; but he viciously defends the so-called right to rip an unborn child to pieces! And they call this knowledge!

### **Fearing God Is The Beginning Of Knowledge, About Religion!**

If it were not for God and His Word, men would still be sacrificing their wives and children in fire to make peace with their idols, as is still done by some pagans today!

They would still be cutting and painting themselves to make peace with the great spirit and go to the happy hunting ground.

### **Fearing God Is The Beginning Of Knowledge, About Government!**

If it were not for God and His Word, men would still worship their emperor as god, like the Egyptians of old and the Japanese of yesterday.

Benevolent government was ordained in the Bible, and it is only widely enjoyed in nations that have been havens for Bible preaching. In all other nations, the peasants are used to satisfy the appetite for luxury, of the ruler.

### **Fearing God Is The Beginning Of Knowledge, About History!**

Most historians today write history to further a social agenda, and those that write honestly have little data anyway.

As foolish man discovers that the Word of God accounts of ancient civilizations are true, the same men outlaw the Bible in schools, lest the children have truth at their disposal. Consider the recent discovery of the Hittites that the Bible had described for 3,000 years.

The Word of God has all the answers from the origin of the universe to what to do with your foolish child. From the origination of death to the cure for death. From perfect rules for marriage to the eternal state of the wicked.

Fearing God means, that you believe and trust His Word, which gives you insight and answers for all the questions of life, while the evolutionist fools, can only speculate about new ideas on the age of the big bang.

Fearing God means you do not fear man, which brings pressure to compromise (*Proverbs 29:25; Jeremiah 1:8, 17*).

Peer pressure of elementary school students or academicians in your professional field cause men to accept traditional ideas or politically correct theories.

It is time for the child to cry again, "But the Emperor has no clothes!" The fear of God saves a man from this bondage, for such a man despises all human opinions (*Psalms 119:98-100, 128*).

### **Where Does Wisdom Originate? In The Fear Of The Lord!**

God opens men's eyes, ears, and hearts to truth and wisdom (*1Kings 3:5-15; James 1:5*).

Son, God opens their eyes to His Word (*Psalms 119:18*).

God shows those that fear Him, His secrets (*Proverbs 3:32; Psalm 25:14*). And they fear no man (*Hebrews 13:6*).

### **Wisdom Cannot Be Found Anywhere In The Universe, But In The Fear Of God**



(*Job 28:12-28*)!

***Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:***

Readers, your future depends on obeying your parents.

After introducing Proverbs verses 1-6, Now the Holy Spirit turns to children obeying their parents (*Proverbs 1:8-9*).

**Father's Instruction And Mother's Law  
Can Bring Prosperity To Children's Lives!**

Rejecting their parent's training will bring pain and trouble and an early death (*Proverbs 15:10; 23:13-14*).

These first Proverbs exalted the fear of the Lord (*Proverbs 1:7*).

This is the foundation for every life, knowing and obeying your Creator (*Proverbs 9:10; Job 28:28; Psalms 111:10; 112:1; 128:1-6; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14*).

The next rules for a successful life, is to obeying the parents, that God specifically chose for you, from the entire human race (*Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:1-3*).

Not every father gives good instruction, not every mother gives godly laws. But Solomon and his wife were wise. Solomon had had great parents, and he wanted his son to pay attention (*Proverbs 4:1-4*).

**If** you have Christian parents, that desire God's best for you, there is every reason to fully obey them. And **If** you do not, Christian parents, God wants you to obey them anyway.

After fearing the Lord, the simplest way for children to be wise and avoid life's pitfalls, is to obey the hard-earned knowledge and affectionate wisdom of parents.

What a fantastic thing! God has appointed an experienced man and woman, with deep emotional ties as the personal guardians for every child. Why would a child ever disobey his father or mother?

Many fathers have said, "Why did he do that? I clearly taught him to avoid that problem." Though the caring and experienced father, warned his son about the danger of a choice, the son did not hear or remember the advice. He did not comprehend or retain the lesson, and he fell into the very pain and trouble his father tried to save him from.

Many mothers have said, "Why did she do that? I gave her a rule to never do that!" Though the godly and

loving mother laid down a law to protect her daughter, the foolish girl chose her own way and reaped the bitter consequences. She forsook the law of her mother by neglecting the warning and choosing to do things her own way.

What causes children to be so foolish? Because they have only a fraction of the knowledge and experience their parents have.

They are unable to identify or analyze the nature and causes of the dysfunctional lives around them.

They are shortsighted, thinking only about the present, their parents are focused on the future.

They are emotionally captivated by peer pressure and childish foolishness.

Their parents know them better than anyone else, including themselves, yet they persist in doing things their way. How idiotic!

**It Is The Sins  
Of Pride, Rebellion  
And Self-Deception!**

The child, though barely trained to use a toilet and drink from a cup, believes it knows more than their parents.

The child, wants to experiment with sex, though its parents have slept together every night for at least 10 years before their child could even conceive of sex! What presumption!

The child, wants to spend all income rather than save, even though it has not provided one dollar for its own support!

Is obeying parents as important as the Bible makes it? Is disobedience worthy of death (*Proverbs 20:20; 30:17; Deuteronomy 21:18-21; 27:16*)?

Yes! It definitely is! Even **If** violating a parent's laws does not bring severe direct consequences!

God Himself demands strict obedience to uphold His appointed representatives, to provide for parental control, family tranquility, and to introduce the child to authority for future prosperity. God Himself will destroy all rebels.

Child! You have been warned about rejecting your parents. God has also offered an incentive, **If** you will obey and honor them. He will give you a long life and bless it with good success (*Ephesians 6:1-3*)!

Can you believe your good fortune? Two loving parents to teach you wisdom, severe judgment **If** you rebel, but supernatural blessings **If** you obey! It is all up to you! You can have everything in the way of peace and success by obeying!

Father! Are you giving your children the instruction they need to succeed in life and grow in favor with God and men? God has given you this duty (*Ephesians 6:4*).

As a Mother! Are you laying down the law for your children to save them from the horrible troubles of this perverse generation? You are responsible along with your husband (*Proverbs 6:20*).

Do not content yourself with raising children. Make sure you are preparing them to please God in life.

Though the present generation thinks fathers and mothers are outdated, emphasizing instead one-parent homes, same-sex unions, test tube cloning, and public zoo instruction, The Word of God still stands as the only relevant and infinitely wise manual from our Creator (*Psalms 119:128; Isaiah 8:20; 1 Timothy 6:20-21*).

Any efforts to compromise, despise, or overthrow its laws will bring confusion and destruction to the compromisers (*Proverbs 29:18; Psalm 9:17*).

Have you submitted yourself to the instruction and laws of our LORD?

**If** you neglect the preaching of His Word, even your prayers become an abomination to God (*Proverbs 28:9*).

**If** you are not a prepared and focused hearer, one who takes careful "heed," God will strip you of any wisdom you think you have (*Luke 8:18; Mark 4:24*).

The blessing of hearing the truth preached is limited to those who are doers of what they hear (*James 1:21-25*).

***Proverbs 1:9 For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.***

A young man can be like a glorious prince with a crown on his head and chains on his neck.

There are two conditions to be a glorious prince of a young man:

1. Parents to teach him God's wisdom, and
2. The young person's obedience to that instruction.

**If** either is missing, a young man will grow up dysfunctional and disgraceful.

The only possible remedies in such a case are: The powerful grace of God, intervention of other teachers, or the individual being devoted diligently to overcome such a handicap to success.

This Proverb is a powerful metaphor. Instead of using "as" or "like" to indicate a simile, Solomon made a stronger point by teaching that obedience to parental instruction would give a young man the visible honor usually due a prince (*Genesis 41:42*).

While obedience will not literally obtain jewelry for a young man's public appearance, it will give him the grace and wisdom that gloriously adorn a young man in the eyes of God and men.

Additional Summary Contextual Information: The Holy Spirit also introduces the purpose of Proverbs (*Proverbs 1:1-6*), to lay the foundation of wisdom in the fear of the Lord (*Proverbs 1:7*), and immediately identified the importance of young men obeying their parents (*Proverbs 1:8-9*).

The Holy Spirit went on to warn against companionship with wicked men (*Proverbs 1:10-19*).

And He described the terrible consequences of rejecting offered wisdom (*Proverbs 1:20-33*).

Here in the first chapter of the book are the foundation stones for a successful life.

Wise parental instruction is essential for a young man's success. Without it, he enters the world as an ignorant infant, and he makes little progress beyond that, without parental experience and wisdom poured into his heart and mind.

The young man never truly grows up! He remains deformed and stunted in proportion to the neglect of his parents.

The young man responds to life in most cases like a spoiled child.

Character is formed in childhood and youth (*Proverbs 19:18; 22:6, 15*).

### **Woe To The Young Man Or Young Woman With Foolish Lazy Wicked Parents!**

A young man learns the important things in life by watching and obeying a godly father. He learns to:

- Balance authority and affection,
- Maximize a marriage,
- Obtain professional success,
- Lead a home,
- Respect for authority,
- Manage money,
- Avoid whores and drunkenness,
- Walk with God, and Pray,
- Make personal application of the Word of God, and
- Forgive offences.

### Without this training, he lacks:

- Graciousness,
- Humility,
- Perseverance,
- Mercy, and
- Ruling his spirit and tongue.
- He never achieves the princely grace and glory of a man with the approval of God and men.

What are the lessons this far? A young man's success depends on the wise instruction of godly parents.

Parents have an obligation from God to train their children in the fear of the Lord (*Proverbs 23:13-14; 29:15; Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Ephesians 6:4*).

Children are bound to repay their parents for that great kindness and service (*1Timothy 5:4*).

Wise parental instruction is only half of the equation. A young man must obey the commandments, laws, and warnings of his parents in order to benefit from their efforts. A foolish and stubborn child is doomed to failure and misery.

The only way a young man can grow and prosper before God and men is to take his parents' advice to heart and obey it in his life (*Proverbs 3:1-2; 4:10-13, 20-22; 5:1-2; 6:20-24; 7:1-5; 23:19-23; Ephesians 6:1-3*).

The goal of being a prince before God and men can only be achieved by careful obedience to good godly parenting.

Are you training your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, as did Abraham, David, and others (*Proverbs 4:3-4; Genesis 18:19; Psalm 78:1-8; Ephesians 6:4*)?

The consequences of neglecting your children, no matter the excuse, will cause problems for generations!

Young man/woman! Are you obeying what your parents have taught you? Do you humbly accept instruction, even when it differs from this perverse world (*Proverbs 15:31; Deuteronomy 4:5-10*)?

Are you strong and focused enough to defy peer pressure and evil communications (*1Corinthians 15:33*)?

Older man! **If** you had great parents that taught you the fear of the Lord, honor them and thank God for them! **If** you did not have such parents, then you must beg God for help and put forth greater effort to learn the valuable things you were not taught in childhood.

The ultimate crown and chains of glory are reserved in heaven for those who endure temptation and pursue a life of righteousness as defined by Jesus Christ and His

apostles (*1Corinthians 9:25; 2Timothy 4:8; James 1:12; 1Peter 5:4; Revelation 2:10*).

A prince in heaven is infinitely superior to one on earth! Look well to your going son! Do not miss your reward (*2John 1:8*)!

***Proverbs 1:10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.***

### Righteousness Is A Characteristic That Resists The Attraction Of Sin.

No matter how desirable an evil person or thing might be: righteousness will not give in. Righteousness will hold to its principles regardless.

Sinners are not content with sinning and going to hell by themselves. They want to include others in their wickedness. Bringing the innocent into their sinful activities and friendship helps justify their evil minds, and the devil uses them to corrupt God's saints.

The Scriptural context describes a group of cutthroats luring an innocent young man into their gang (*Proverbs 1:11-14*).

They offer him friendship, unity, success, and riches. Solomon warns his son to stay away from them, for they are wicked and headed for destruction (*Proverbs 1:15-19*).

Strong righteous men will not agree with sinners for any reason! They are committed to what is right, and the folly of fools angers them. They hate the wicked way (*Psalms 101:3; 139:21-22*)!

How do sinners entice, seduce, attract, or lure saints?

There are several ways, and they provide wonderful lessons for increasing in wisdom and understanding.

**First, there is family.** And woe to those who exalt family over Scripture, for they will compromise righteousness to save it. What a cheap sell-out!

A dinner table with sinners and saints is confused? So Jesus taught His disciples to hate family in comparison to Him (*Luke 14:26*).

The Lord's teaching divides families to test our love of Him (*Matthew 10:34-37*).

**If** we will not forsake family for Jesus Christ and the truth, we are not worthy of Him. Because Eli chose his sons, God destroyed them all (*1Samuel 3:13*).

**Second, there is fear of man.** **If** we worry about what others think or do, we trap our own souls, and we will

compromise Scripture to keep them happy (*Proverbs 29:25*).

We call it peer pressure, when it involves children; but we say little, when it involves adults. Why not say, "*I will not fear what man shall do unto me*" (*Hebrews 13:6*)?

Peter, noble and brave in his intentions, compromised horribly before mere maids! And Pilate, warned by his wife and even convicted himself, could not release Jesus before the Jews!

**Third, there is association.** Some are so desperate for society approval, they will do anything to keep their standing. In *Proverbs 1:11* "us" is precious to them. Standing alone overwhelms these weaklings. They need acceptance and support to survive.

Believers among the Jews would not confess Jesus for fear of losing synagogue membership (*John 12:42*).

God condemns this compromising association with sinners (*Isaiah 8:9; 2Chronicles 19:1-2*)!

God is looking for men who will stand against the crowd like Joshua and Caleb!

**Fourth, suggested or offered success is enticing.** The young man was told he could fill his house with treasure, **if** he were to join the gang (*Proverbs 1:13*).

How many men have sacrificed their convictions to get ahead in their profession? It took only thirty pieces of silver to buy the soul of Judas and sell the Lord Jesus. It took only a little silver and two changes of clothes to buy the soul of Gehazi.

The world's enticements can be reduced to three kinds of sin: The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (*1John 2:15-17*).

Satan used these three enticements on Eve, and they worked (*Genesis 3:6*).

Satan tried them on our Lord, but He resisted them. Are you able, to identify these offerings, by sinners and detect your weakness for them?

Churches today offer a smorgasbord of witty inventions for carnal Christians and the unregenerate. They boast of their growth and many programs to satisfy the lusts of every age and sex. They make great efforts to entice you to join them. Don't consent!

Reader, are you settled on the rock of God's Word? Will you remain there regardless of who might entice you or what might be offered? Do you know your own soul and the weaknesses of it? Examine yourself, and remove any temptations far away!

The Lord Jesus was enticed by the devil three times (*Luke 4:1-13*). Did He compromise at all? Not a chance! And what was His answer each time? ***'It Is Written!'***

Wisdom demands you end unnecessary tempting relationships with sinners (*Proverbs 1:15*)! See the comments on *Proverbs 13:20*.

David's conviction to live a righteous life included cutting off any sinner among his acquaintances, even **if** it included family members (*Psalms 101:4-8*).

Are you ready and willing to stand alone against all the enticements of the wicked?

***Proverbs 1:11 If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:***

### **Evil Friends Are A Great Danger To Youth.**

Peer pressure bends and molds, even the strong and resolved, to destruction. David began his psalms with the warning (*Psalms 1:1*).

Solomon began his proverbs the same way (*Proverbs 1:10-19*). The warning was stated, "*My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not*" (*Proverbs 1:10*).

King Solomon, the wise father, illustrates his warning by a graphic invitation to join a band of cutthroats.

Their cruelty and greed can hardly be matched (*Proverbs 1:11-13*).

Their absolute certain ruin does not affect them (*Proverbs 1:17-19*).

Few people would be enticed by an offer to secretly shed the blood of innocent people for no reason! But enticement by any sinner is no better!

"*Come with us.*" This first word, is like the Pied Piper's flute, impossible to resist and damning in the end. Come, we are going places today. Come, we have activities planned that you have missed. Come, we are always doing exciting things.

Why be bored, with your simple and strict life? There are things to do and places to go that will fill your life with excitement and happiness. Why stay at home? Things are happening! Come!

"*Come with us.*" This second Word, speaks of acceptance, approval, belonging, friendship, and unity. We can be together. You can be part of a tight circle of friends. You will never be lonely again.

We will co-mingle our abilities and assets; we will be invincible. Why live life alone? You will never be anything alone! We can enter the wide gate together!

"Come with us." This third Word, declares the desirability of the association. We are well known. We are popular. We have accomplished great things, and we are going to do more. We have a fastest growing church in the city. We have a name. We have influence. We have antiquity and tradition with us. You are nothing in comparison.

The bait is offered. Who can resist, "Come with us"? Solomon exposed sinners by stating their wicked activities bluntly.

Evil men seldom declare such profane goals up front, but all sin and rebellion are the same in the sight of God, no matter how socially acceptable. Most would reject such a calloused invitation, **If** it were stated in this way; but it is usually hidden.

Young girls seduced by worldly men never planned to kill an unborn baby, but many end up under the abortionist's knife.

David found it easy to be joined with Bathsheba, but he never planned to murder one of his most loyal friends.

Many Jewish rulers, that believed on Jesus Christ, could not leave the synagogue, so they became guilty by association, with the most cold-blooded murder in human history (*John 12:42-43*).

Young man! Young woman! Ignore their charms, invitations, or threats. **If sinners entice thee, consent thou not (*Proverbs 1:10*)! Walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path (*Proverbs 1:15*)!**

Do not lie to yourself! They will corrupt you (*1Corinthians 15:33*)! Guaranteed!

You will end up with blood dripping from your hands one way or the other! Get away! Get far away! Get away now (*Proverbs 4:14-15; 9:6; 13:20; Ps 1:1-6; 26:4-5*)!

***Proverbs 1:12 Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:***

#### **Fools And Sinners Are Arrogantly Confident Of Success.**

A band of cutthroats try to lure an innocent young man to join them by boasting of certain success. Such lazy, murderous thieves, filled with ambitious pride, are beyond hope or help (*Proverbs 26:12,16*).

Solomon knew evil friends were a great danger to his son and all young men, so he began Proverbs by warning against them (*Proverbs 1:10-19*).

This Proverb, is part of a parable, about a gang of murdering marauders, who declared their plans in thoughts of glory to entice a new member. So, Solomon concluded the parable by showing the guaranteeing their ruin (*Proverbs 1:17-19*).

The murderers speak in this Proverb. Though such things stated are rarely said openly, Solomon exposed their true intents for the purpose of his warning. Full of malice and violence, they will find victims with assets (*Proverbs 1:11-14*).

They will kill the innocents easily and swallow them as thoroughly as the grave or pit. This united band will kill quickly; there will be no opposition; any incriminating evidence will be destroyed. Success is certain!

#### **Haughtiness And Confidence And Lying Words Of Cutthroats Are Not New.**

Sinners have always thought their crimes would be easy and without consequences. They are sure of success in their evil ambitions. Foolish and naïve young men fall for their boastful plans and join them. They do not see the certain destruction that is waiting for all such wicked rebels.

David was confident he could successfully kill Uriah in battle, and take his wife, but he forgot God seeing the deed and letting him grieve over the death of his baby son (*2Samuel 12:14-23*)!

A strange woman, an adulterous, guarantees the pleasure and success of a sinful liaison (*Proverbs 7:18-23*).

She details how they could get away with this heinous crime against her husband. The idiot that joined her ended up in death and hell (*Proverbs 2:18-19; 5:5; 7:27; 9:18*)!

Judas thought 30 pieces of silver for betraying Jesus was an easy score. In his profane pride, he did not see Satan leaving his guilty bowels scattered across a field (*Acts 1:18*).

The Jews hated Jesus, so they demanded Pilate to crucify Him. When Pilate sought to avoid His innocent blood, they begged for it on themselves and their children (*Matthew 27:24-25*).

God used the Emperor Titus to make sure that it would be so (*Matthew 21:33-41; 22:1-7; 23:29-36; 1Thessalonians 2:15-16*)!

The way of transgressors is hard (*Proverbs 13:15*), the way of murder harder.

*Proverbs 28:17* A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.

***Proverbs 1:13* We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:**

What an offer! How can you resist? Unity with others! All precious substance! Houses filled with spoil! Beware reader! Death and hell are hidden in the words!

The world does not entice you to sin by offering pain and trouble. The world entices you by offering friendship, pleasure, and success. But all that glitters is not gold, and sin will bring you total ruin!

**Here is a lesson in peer pressure.** Solomon warned his son to reject sinners enticing him to good success (*Proverbs 1:11-14*).

Solomon concluded the lesson, by telling his son to stay away, from their sins and the horrible judgment that would surely come on them (*Proverbs 1:15-19*).

#### **A Large Part Of Wisdom Is Rejecting Ungodly Friends.**

This is a common warning of Scripture (*Exodus 23:2; Psalms 1:1; 26:4-5; 101:1-8; 1Corinthians 15:33; 2Corinthians 6:14-17; James 4:4*).

All good parents should and will keep their children from the ungodly influences of evil friends. Solomon emphasized it for the safety of his own son (*Proverbs 1:15; 4:14-15; 9:6; 13:20; 14:7; 19:27*).

#### **Every Sin Offers A Desirable Motive, A Short-Term Pleasure A Promise Of Success, Or Men Would Not Sin.**

Eve thought she could become like God, if she ate the forbidden fruit.

Samson thought Delilah would make him happy.

Ananias and Sapphira thought they could keep some of the money and still appear to be important in the church.

#### **Sin Is A Deceitful Lie!**

The devil and his world make tempting offers. They seldom admit, they hate God, they seldom admit, they want to violate God's Word, they seldom admit, they cannot wait for you to go to hell. They come, as an angel of light and ministers of righteousness, telling you how to have your cake and eat it too.

Satan comes as another Jesus, presenting a popular gospel, and the wooing of another spirit (*2Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15*).

We live in the perilous times of the last days, evil seducers are worse than ever (*2Timothy 3:1-13*).

Carnal Christianity is full of evil seducers. One of their sweet lies in compromising the truth is to offer growth, you can be part of a mega-church, just like the cutthroats in our Proverb.

Paul condemned the end-justifies-the-means crowd, and their heretical measurement, of godliness by gain, and he told Timothy to get away from such men (*1Timothy 6:3-5*).

What is the cure for these lying tempters? *"But godliness with contentment is great gain"* (*1Timothy 6:6*).

Peer pressure cannot affect a man committed to godliness and contentment with what he has. Seducers have no opening in such a man's life!

Paul warned further about the grievous dangers of worldly ambition (*1Timothy 6:7-10*).

Moses should be our example; he forsook all the opportunities of Egypt to suffer with people of the Lord (*Hebrews 11:24-26*).

***Proverbs 1:14* Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:**

Unity is nothing without God's approval! In fact, it is damnable treason, unless holy principles govern it!

Sinners want saints to approve of them and join their endeavors, but the LORD demands His children avoid and reject their close company.

Sinners make great appeals for cooperation and friendship, but their hearts pursue very different goals.

Solomon here warned his son, and all young men, against the peer pressure of sinful men. Their goals are robbery and murder, and then destruction is their certain end. (*Proverbs 1:10-19*). See the comments on *Proverbs 1:10*.

Young men who fear the Lord, should stay far from them and reject all appeals, for joining together. Running with the gang is contrary to godliness!

Fellowship and society with godly saints is good and glorious, but it is horrible when saints are unequally joined together with unbelievers!

Communion and unity in the Lord's church is a great blessing, but fellowship with sinners is damnable. Yet some men with weak character cannot resist the invitations and pressure of the wicked to join them.

Jehoshaphat was such a man. A grandson of David and king of Judah, he could not resist the invitations of Ahab, king of Israel, at joint projects and family intermarriage (*2Chronicles 18:1-3*).

What saith the Lord? *"And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD"* (*2Chronicles 19:2*).

The Tower of Babel was man's first known effort at uniting the earth, but the LORD stopped the work and confounded its inhabitants!

At the same site two thousand years later, Nebuchadnezzar took his stab at religious ecumenism, but three faithful men would not compromise truth and turned the religious festivities upside down!

The religion of Jesus Christ is first pure, then peaceable. Do not reverse the Lord's order! Saints are only at peace, when purity is exalted! (*James 3:17*).

The purity is the cry of apostles and angels. *"Come out from among them,"* (*2Corinthians 6:14-17; Revelation 18:4*).

God's highest blessings and fellowship demand truth and righteousness (*2Corinthians 6:16 - 7:1*).

There is no peace where purity has been sacrificed, but for the peace of death (*Proverbs 21:16*).

Moses left the pleasures and riches of Egypt for the afflictions and reproach of Jesus Christ and the people of God. Son, could you make such a choice? Son, would you make such a choice? (*Hebrews 11:24-27*).

There is comfort and reward, there is praise of men and human security, by staying in Pharaoh's household. But the great reward, the riches of Christ and our eternal inheritance in Him, are found only in Canaan, with a separated life.

***Proverbs 1:15 My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:***

**A Wise Life Requires Avoiding Fools.  
A Righteous Life Requires Avoiding Sinners.**

Reader, cheating here will cost you dearly: evil communications corrupt good manners (*1Corinthians 15:33*).

These rules are especially true for youth, so Solomon taught his son, to avoid the evil influences and the sinful lifestyles of fools and rebels.

**Peer pressure is a powerful force.** A wise father will protect his children from this pressure, and he will teach his children against this kind of pressure.

Consider the context. Solomon first introduced the purpose for Proverbs: instruction in wisdom (*Proverbs 1:1-6*).

He then stated the essential axioms of fearing God and obeying parents to achieve this goal (*Proverbs 1:7-9*).

After that he gave a lengthy description of the temptations and dangers of wicked fools (*Proverbs 1:10-19*).

And then Solomon, closed with a personification of wisdom as a woman, appealing to young men to heed her advice and warnings, or else (*Proverbs 1:20-33*). The section begins, *"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not"* (*Proverbs 1:10*).

It is not **"If"** sinners will entice a young man, but rather "when." They will solicit him. They will offer great advantages, **If** he will join them (*Proverbs 1:11-14*).

But the consequences will be fatal. Fatal to his desires and the need to be wise and successful (*Proverbs 1:15-19*). *My son, consent thou not!*

Fools always seek others to join in their folly and wickedness (*Proverbs 1:10-19; 2:10-15*).

Whores entice men to enjoy illicit sexual pleasures (*Proverbs 2:16-19; 5:3-21; 7:6-21; 9:13-18*).

A wise young man will reject both. He will keep friendships only with good and righteous men, knowing the judgment that is certain to come on the wicked (*Proverbs 2:20-22*).

**God wants Christians to be separated people.** The reason is simple, the world hates God, truth, wisdom, and Bible righteousness. Take a strong Bible stand on any subject, and you will soon know this by experience!

God wants His people, to love only Him and live only for Him. The world will do everything, it can to keep you from this objective. Friendship with the world is enmity with God (*James 4:4; 1John 2:15-17*).

**There Is Grave Danger  
If You Are Deceived!**

You either think you can survive a few worldly friendships, or you will not examine your life to see where you are allowing the world to entice you. Paul wrote forcefully, *"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners"* (*1Corinthians 15:33*). You will be corrupted, or more likely, you already are.

**Friends With A Worldly**

## **Philosophy Or Lifestyle Will Destroy You!**

They will destroy your children.

They will influence you to reject a Holy God.

They will tell you to believe you are a product of evolution, that religious formalities are sufficient, that love makes everything acceptable, that you should follow your own heart, that you should accept those differing from you, that no one has all the truth, that confidence in a position is arrogant and divisive, or that God does not mind your sins.

The Proverb warns against two dangers: <sup>1</sup>walking in friendship with sinners, or <sup>2</sup>choosing their lifestyles.

In order to learn wisdom and follow righteousness: You must first avoid any relationships with compromisers, fools, or sinners. This is the base requirement.

You must also reject their lifestyles, or choosing their activities, attitudes, philosophies, and goals this is just as corrupting and damning. You must get away from them and their ways!

### **Where is the world enticing you or your children?**

Here are its top ten tools or institutions to corrupt your love of God and righteousness: <sup>1</sup>television and movies, <sup>2</sup>public schools, <sup>3</sup>contemporary churches, <sup>4</sup>work colleagues, <sup>5</sup>public opinion, <sup>6</sup>friendly neighbors, <sup>7</sup>bestseller reading material, <sup>8</sup>lifestyles of the rich and famous, <sup>9</sup>retail advertising, and <sup>10</sup>fashion trends.

### **How is the world enticing you or your children?**

Here are its top arguments to convince you that worldly friendships are acceptable: <sup>1</sup>they won't really hurt you; <sup>2</sup>they are such nice people; <sup>3</sup>you need to just be moderate; <sup>4</sup>we can agree to disagree on certain things; <sup>5</sup>I need them for professional success; <sup>6</sup>I need them for social success; <sup>7</sup>limiting myself to church friends is too restrictive; <sup>8</sup>it is the only way I can win them to the truth; <sup>9</sup>they are better than many others I know; and <sup>10</sup>God loves us all equally just as we are. **These are ten lies to destroy you.**

If wisdom and success are important to you, then you must avoid foolish persons, for they will destroy you (**Proverbs 13:20; 14:7; 28:7**).

This is not an option; this is a commandment. How far should you get away? *"Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away"* (**Proverbs 4:14-15**).

If wisdom and success are dear to you, then you must associate with wise and successful persons. Who are these people? They are good men by God's definitions that fear Him and live wise and holy lives (**Proverbs 13:20; Psalm 119:63; Titus 1:8**).

Such friends can provide invaluable counsel and correction when you need it (**Proverbs 15:22; 27:5-6,9-10,17**).

Such friends, will help you toward, wisdom and righteousness, not away from it, like worldly friends would do.

This Proverb also applies to religious associations. You must mark and avoid anyone differing from the gospel (**Romans 16:17-18**).

And you may justifiably condemn any that preach a different gospel (**Galatians 1:6-9**).

You are to withdraw from those that violate apostolic tradition (**2Thessalonians 3:6; 1Timothy 6:3-5**).

And you are to turn away from contemporary Christianity (**2Timothy 3:1-5**).

Great religious compromise is here (**2Timothy 4:3-4**).

It is the duty of every believer to earnestly contend for the faith (**Jude 1:3**).

Friends are good, **If** they are good friends; but good friends are only measured by their fear of God and righteous living.

Where can you find such friends? In a true church of the Lord Jesus Christ, and where the world and all its compromises and witty inventions are rejected.

There the pure truth and wisdom and the inspired Scriptures are exalted, defended, and taught boldly and clearly. How do you stand regarding this rule?

## ***Proverbs 1:16 For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.***

### **Fools Cannot Quit Folly. Sinners Cannot Stop Sinning.**

In fact, they run rather than walk to more wickedness. Fools and Sinners greedily rush to satisfy their evil lusts. Son, because of this trait, young men should stay as far from fools and sinners as possible (**Ephesians 4:17-19**).

If you associate with them, it is certain you will be pressed into greater and greater wicked actions.

After introducing the book of Proverbs (**Proverbs 1:1-9**), Solomon wrote a parable warning his son about the grave danger of evil associations (**Proverbs 1:10-19**).

Foolish friends destroy more young men than any other single factor.



The parable describes a band of cutthroats seeking to entice a young man to join them, and Solomon tells his son where such fools are headed.

Being solicited to join a band of cutthroats is hard to imagine, but consider the temptation for young men to join gangs in high schools or city ghettos, immoral college fraternities, subversive military or professional organizations, the KKK, the Masonic Lodge, the Communist Party, and other societies of men pursuing a variety of evil goals.

The danger of collusion with wicked men is their mad rush to more and more evil. No matter your intentions to avoid sin and wickedness, their enticing invitations and the power of peer pressure will be too much to resist. You will be destroyed with them, as they continue down to their certain destiny. Solomon made this clear before ending the parable (**Proverbs 1:17-19**). Sin does not know contentment. One sin is not enough, and fruit (results or outcomes) of sinful pleasures creates and greater appetite.

The sinner must have more. The heart becomes increasingly hardened, the conscience is seared, the lusts are inflamed, the mind cannot forget the sinful thrills. The downhill rush to destruction has begun.

**What Stops Sinners?  
No Man Can Or Will  
Reform Wicked Friends.**

Instead, the wicked friends will corrupt your good manners (**1Corinthians 15:33**).

The safety of wisdom is simple: do not even get started in relationships with fools (**Proverbs 1:10; 4:14-17; Psalms 1:1-3**).

**If** you have foolish friends, forsake them immediately (**Proverbs 9:6; 13:20**).

This rule is crucial for survival and success (**Proverbs 2:10-22**).

Only God can change fools, which He did so in the case of Saul of Tarsus (**Titus 3:3-5**).

**If** you think you can change them, you are gravely mistaken. Be not deceived (**1Corinthians 15:33**)!

Another Proverb concludes, "*Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him*" (**Proverbs 27:22**).

The lesson is simple and weighty. Foolish friends will destroy all around them. Therefore, reject all worldly friends. Embrace the friends, of the Lord Jesus Christ (**Psalms 101:1-8; 119:63; 144:11-15**).

***Proverbs 1:17 Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.***

Birds are foolishly stupid, even to the destruction of their lives. The fowler spreads the net in their view, but it does them no good. The attraction of the corn or other bait lures them into the snare easily. The warning of danger is clear, but it does not even slow them down. The certainty of their stupidity and destruction is a lesson and warning for men.

Reader, here is a classic Proverb! A dark saying of the wise, needing a little interpretation (**Proverbs 1:6**)!

**Lord, What A Great Book  
You Have Written!**

Are you ready, to explore the meaning of these challenging Words? This Proverb, as surely as all the rest, carries very important wisdom and instruction for us.

A fowler hunts wild birds, either for food or sport. He is a bird-catcher, and he generally uses nets. With food as the bait, he would spread a net that could easily be dropped over the bird or gathered together to trap it. He would wait for the bird to come for the easy food, and then drop the net over it. Unable to fly away, the fowler had his helpless prey.

What is vain, a foolish waste, in our Proverb? "*Surely in vain*" starts the Proverb. But what is the vanity? What is the wasteful event?

Is it a foolish waste for the fowler to spread his net while a bird is watching, for it will know better than to approach the bait?

Is it worthless for the bird to see the fowler spreading the dangerous net, since he will quickly fly to the bait as soon as the fowler is out of sight?

The latter interpretation is the correct one. Laying a trap for a bird while it watches will certainly not help the bird, for it will quickly fly to the bait, at the cost of its own life. It is vain, or worthless, for the bird to see the danger, for it will not perceive the fatal risk. A bird is too stupid to see the danger, and too greedy of the bait to fly away. Lord, thank you, for revealing the interpretation, so we can learn the lesson.

We choose this interpretation by the context, which describes wicked men running and hasting to violent crimes, that will result in their own loss of life (**Proverbs 1:16, 18**).

As in all of God's Word, we study the context to determine the intent of individual verses. It is right and good to compare Scripture with Scripture. Here we have Solomon, warning his son against evil companions (**Proverbs 1:10-19**).

Wicked men, greedily pursue sinful lives, in spite of clear warnings of danger in full view.

Wicked men, read of similar criminals being arrested and punished severely.

Wicked men, see others die young and horrible deaths.

Wicked men, hear strong warnings of divine judgment to come; and their consciences tell them God condemns their actions.

Yet, wicked men, fly to the bait, the precious substance and spoil of robbery and the unrighteous gain of theft (**Proverbs 1:13, 19**).

**Sin  
Is Deceitfully Blinding  
To All Who Engage In It!**

Though God warned Adam and Eve plainly, they flew into Satan's net of forbidden fruit.

Even though adultery is warned against and the painful consequences are well known, foolish men go rushing after the strange woman *"as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life"* (**Proverbs 7:22-23**).

Wicked men pursue sin without regard for the danger, and then the net falls on them suddenly. The danger was there all along, and it was visible. (**Ecclesiastes 9:12**).

Wicked men, are deceived that they will not get caught. They convince themselves they can get away without the consequences others suffer. They know God's judgment, yet they continue in sin, (**Romans 1:32**)

Why are they so stupid? The deceitful nature of sin and power of Satan makes them as foolish and vulnerable as the birds (**Jeremiah 17:9; 2Timothy 2:26**)!

The LORD will not be mocked (**Galatians 6:7**). The net will fall! The sinful bird will be taken! The fowler of divine justice will take his prey! God has set His own gin and snare for the wicked (**Amos 3:1-8**).

The wicked will be snared in the work of his own hands; he will be trapped and destroyed in his own folly, which will fall on his head (**Job 18:5-10; Psalms 7:14-16; 9:15-16; 35:7-8; 57:4-6**).

Kiss the Son. He is the only hope (**Psalms 2:12**)!

Do not be a foolish bird! *"Deliver thyself as a roe from the hand of the hunter, and as a bird from the hand of the fowler"* (**Proverbs 6:5**).

Get away from the temptation, of the bait! Run from the danger, of the net, laid for your soul!

You cannot keep company with wicked men, play with a strange woman, and follow any sinful habit without it trapping and destroying you! Flee youthful lusts, today!

Foolishness is bound in the hearts of your children (**Proverbs 22:15**).

Parent, it is your duty to teach your children the folly of sin and provide a little pain to reinforce to enhance the lesson, lest they be stupid as birds and fly to their own destruction (**Proverbs 13:24; 22:6; 23:13-14; 29:15; Ephesians 6:4**).

Parent, you must point out, the deceitfulness, of sin's bait and teach your children, the painful consequences of disobedience. Remind them that sinners continuing in sin are as stupid as birds flying into a visible net.

Reader, we were snared by the fowler from hell (Satan), the devil himself, who took you and I captive at his will. We loved his bait, and we willingly obeyed his lies to the eternal entrapment of our soul (**2Timothy 2:26; Ephesians 2:1-3**).

Do you know your situation, was as bleak as a bird, in the net of a destroyer? But the Lord Jesus Christ, stronger than Satan, has delivered you from his snare (**Luke 11:20-22; Colossians 1:13**). Praise His name!

Satan, has and will move men, to lay snares for the righteous, but the Lord will deliver His saints out of them all (**Psalms 91:3; 140:5; Isaiah 29:20-21; Hosea 9:8; 2Timothy 4:16-18**).

*"Blessed be the LORD, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth. Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped. Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth"* (**Psalms 124:6-8**).

***Proverbs 1:18 And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.***

Those who conspire to kill anyone are hastening their own death. Solomon, warned his son against bloodthirsty conspirators, who would take the lives of others for financial gain (**Proverbs 1:10-19**).

God protects men's lives, and He gives inspired warnings here, of that which goes around, comes around, including murder (**Genesis 9:5-6**)!

Solomon knew his son would be tempted by political conspiracies to steal wealth from others by murder.

Consider how Jezebel, had Naboth killed in order to take possession of his vineyard, for her husband Ahab (**1Kings 21:1-24**).

The dogs ate Queen Jezebel, and they licked King Ahab's blood from his chariot. Their conspiracy of murder did not work in the long run, it brought about their own bloody and violent deaths.

Remember Haman, he died on the very gallows he had prepared for Mordecai (***Esther 7:8-10***)!

God punishes wicked men with the evil they do to others. He rules over sinners!

David wrote, *"He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made. His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate"* (***Psalms 7:15-16***).

And again, *"The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken. The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands"* (***Psalms 9:15-16***).

There are more Bible proofs of divine retribution in kind (***Proverbs 26:27; Psalms 10:2; 35:8; 141:10; Ecclesiastes 10:8-9***).

No matter how well, plans for evil are laid, and no matter, that men may appear to get away with their crimes, the Lord of vengeance is coming!

No evil occurs, that God has not purposed, to overrule for His own glory and purposes, but woe to the man by whom, that ordained evil is committed (***Psalms 76:10; Isaiah 10:5-15; Matthew 18:7; 26:24***).

Consider Judas Iscariot! He conspired against Jesus Christ, for only thirty pieces of silver. The lying traitor had been stealing from the funds for the poor before he agreed to turn Jesus of Nazareth over to His enemies.

How long did Judas gloat in his success? How well did he spend his blood money? He hung himself, that very night, and the money, bought the field where he fell, burst asunder, and scattered his bowels!

So sinner! Go ahead, plan your evil, commit your crime, and cover your tracks! The truth is coming out! *Be sure your sin will find you out* (***Numbers 32:23***)!

David thought he could take another man's wife in secret and get away with it, but his son Absalom slept with his concubines on the palace rooftop in sight of the whole nation (***2Samuel 12:11-12***)! And this was only part of the judgment!

So sinner! You think you have gotten away with murder, because nothing has happened for a few years? Think again! Here is what God has to say to you, *"These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes. Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I*

*tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver"* (***Psalms 50:21-22***).

Consider America! The nation has been approving and defending the murder of unborn children at the rate of about 1.5 million a year for more than 30 years.

Do you really think God, the great and dreadful God of the Bible, has forgotten the violent deaths of millions of unborn and helpless children?

Vengeance is coming! Probably is already here! Terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and a no-end-in-sight wars and rumors of war, are just a few token indications of the overwhelming scourge that is coming (***Isaiah 28:14-22***)!

Consider America! The nation loves to watch crime and horror movies and television programming that are filled with murder and mayhem. The more hatred, murder, revenge, and violence, the better!

America promotes rap artists that spasmodically rant about murder during their epileptic-like grunting. (Ever check out the average life expectancy of an American rapper? It's about 25.)

America protects video games, that are nothing but mindless violence and gore. And then they wonder why students blow away their classmates!

The rule of this Proverb stands! God hates violence, and the sin (***Proverbs 28:17; Psalms 11:5***)!

Consider America! The nation debates capital punishment like it is an still an open issue (***Genesis 9:5-6; Exodus 21:12-14; Leviticus 24:17***).

Convicted murderers live an average of 7 years or more, from conviction to execution in safe dormitories, getting three square meals a day, reading free books, and requiring the victims' families to fund their appeals.

And this is only, in the few states that execute a few murderers! Most of the nation's murderers are protected like the bald eagle or Siberian tiger! Thus sayeth the Lord, America too will be turned into hell (***Psalms 9:17-20***)!

So, what can you do? Repent for any sins against the blood, life, or reputation of any person. Yes, even their reputations!

The LORD considers, unjustified anger or unjustified name calling, to be a violation of the sixth commandment, *Thou shalt not kill* (***Matthew 5:21-26***).

Beg God for mercy on this nation, for the sake of the few righteous left in it (***Genesis 18:23-33; 2Chronicles 7:14***).

***Proverbs 1:19 So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.***

**Folly And Sin  
Lead To Certain Destruction.**

Fools and sinners are going to be destroyed, and there is nothing they can do to stop it (***Proverbs 11:21***).

Greedy and murderous persons, will be destroyed by their own ambition and violence. In spite, of seeing other, wicked men cut off, and in spite, of being warned many times, they continue on in paths of mischief to their ruin.

Solomon, loved his son and wanted the best for him, in his reign and life, so he was inspired by God to devise a parable about cutthroats, to warn his son about the danger of evil friends (***Proverbs 1:10-19***).

Solomon identified their enticing Words used lure a young man to join them, exposing their wickedness (***Proverbs 1:10-14***).

Then Solomon warned his son to stay away from them, for they would most certainly get him into trouble (***Proverbs 1:15-16***).

Finally, Solomon foretold their utter ruin (***Proverbs 1:17-19***).

The context, is helpful to appreciate the Wording, of the particular verse at hand. Here are the Words going before, that describe the ruin of the cutthroats: "*Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives*" (***Proverbs 1:17-18***).

These greedy murderers, would soon destroy themselves, by their haughty and profane plans to kill, plunder, and rob innocent persons.

Birds are stupid, and so are young men who think they can get away with folly or sin. Though a fowler spreads a net in the sight of a bird, the attractive bait is too appealing; as soon as the fowler is out of sight, the bird will fly into the trap to get the bait.

Birds are caught and ultimately killed by the net they ignored! Young fools are killed by the certain judgment of God and men. They have seen this happen to others and have heard about as well to no avail!

When murderers lie in wait for the innocent. When they lurk secretly, to take their prey, their arrogance and ignorance, cause them to miss the lesson. They are pursuing their own destruction! *Be sure your sin will find you out* (***Numbers 32:23***)!

The king of Terrors, will hunt them down, by the wrath and will of God (***Job 18:5-21***)!

***Proverbs 28:17 A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.***

**Rules Of Certain Destruction,  
Are True Of All Folly And Sin.**

If a person lives contrary, to the wisdom freely offered in Proverbs, they must love death, because it is stalking them at this very moment (***Proverbs 1:31; 8:36; 14:14; Job 4:8; 1Corinthians 16:22***).

The lessons are simple: Stay far away from fools and wicked persons (***Proverbs 9:6; 13:20; 1Corinthians 15:33***).

Observe that fools and sinners soon meet the fate they planned for others (***Proverbs 26:27; Psalm 7:1-17***). And remember, folly and sin have consequences, so hate both (***Proverbs 8:13; Psalm 97:10***).

***Proverbs 1:20 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:***

Son, why do you keep hurting yourself? When will you get tired of the pain? What will it take to make you try a different approach to life? Why do you listen to the call of fools (***Proverbs 1:10-19***)?

Apparently, you must love death, **If** you keep making choices for that direction (***Proverbs 8:36***).

A happy and successful life is being offered in this verse. A glorious woman is crying for your attention. She is near you right now. Can you hear her in the streets? She is crying for you! Lady Wisdom wants your attention.

Lady Wisdom, will give you wisdom, which leads to the best possible life in this world and the next. All you have to do is take her offer!

What is Lady Wisdom saying? "*How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you*" (***Proverbs 1:22-23***).

Those who suffer in pain and trouble, year after year, generation after generation, must love fear, grief, dysfunction, and destruction, because they never change.

Parents divorce; the children purpose they will never divorce; the children end up divorcing.

A father commits adultery; his son vows he will never do such a thing to his wife; he commits adultery. Sin and suffering are endlessly perpetuated from one fool to the next.

A father, and grandfather are drunkards; children, grandchildren, and nephews swear they will never abuse alcohol; but half end up being drunkards, just like their grandfather.

A foolish rebel, argues and fights with his parents, finally being thrown out to fend for himself. He fights at school; he fights in the military; he fights with employees and employers. His wife leaves him; his children hate him; but he fights on to the very last breath.

A little Hindu girl wonders, why a million gods do nothing. The neighbor's cow is uncle Rahul, her dear grandma, was burned to death at grandpa's funeral, her nation bathes in the filthy Ganges, she could be burned to death, if her family does not pay a big dowry to the groom's family. She wonders why nations worship Jesus Christ free from such terrible superstitions and live prosperously, yet she grows up to be a big Hindu.

The Lord Jesus Christ, offers wisdom through: The heavens He created (*Psalms 19:1-6*).

The Lord Jesus Christ, offers wisdom through: The Bible He wrote and purified (*Psalms 19:7-11*).

The Lord Jesus Christ, offers wisdom through: The preachers He gave (*Jeremiah 3:15; Colossians 1:28-29; 2Timothy 3:16-17*).

Lady Wisdom, Solomon's personification of wisdom, calls for you to take advantage of these offerings.

But most men choose to believe Darwin, Nietzsche, Spock, Freud, Gandhi, and Dr. Phil.

How does God react to this? He rejects their prayers, blinds them to truth and wisdom, and rewires their brains to do inconvenient things, like sodomy (*Proverbs 1:20-32; Romans 1:18-32*).

**Lady Wisdom Is Calling  
It Is Time For You To Answer!**

***Proverbs 1:21 She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying,***

Where is wisdom? Solomon was inspired to write Proverbs to teach wisdom to young men in particular and to all God's children in general (*Proverbs 1:1-6*).

So where do you think you must go to find it?

Wisdom is freely offered, in the Word of God, and everywhere to those who will simply stop and listen (*Proverbs 1:20-23; 8:1-10; 9:1-5*)!

Solomon, personified wisdom as a woman, like Americans do Mother Nature. Lady Wisdom speaks for most of this first chapter (*Proverbs 1:20-33*).

Wisdom is available for you! Solomon used this personification often (*Proverbs 2:1-4; 3:13-18; 4:5-13; 8:1-36; 9:1-12*).

Job asked this great question "where is wisdom?" (*Job 28:1-12*).

Natural man cannot find it or buy it (*Job 28:13-22*).

Only God knows where it is found (*Job 28:23-27*).

God said, "*Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom*" (*Job 28:28*)!

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom (*Proverbs 1:7; 9:10*).

What is it? It is a reverent awe that keeps God's commandments and hates all sin and much more (*Proverbs 8:13; Job 28:28; Ps 111:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Hebrews 12:28-29*).

Wisdom delights in God and the things He loves (*Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Jeremiah 9:23-24*).

Wisdom is opposite everything believed and taught by CNN, Hollywood, by the NEA, the PTA, Foxnews, Harvard, PETA, the UN, Oxford, AA, the Vatican, CBS, the RNC, and the NFL!

You forfeit all wisdom, **If** you have allegiance to Allah, Baal, Buddha, Confucius, Dagon, Eostre, the great spirit, Krishna, Mary, the Pope Mohamed, Rama, Shiva, the Talmud, or Vishnu!

Lady Wisdom calls for you! She cries in the chief place of concourse, where men travel. She cries in the openings of the gates, where men enter the city. She is nearby for any, who will stop his business and noise to listen (*Psalms 4:3-5; 46:8-11*)!

A plain sermon is preached day and night in every language and dialect! God has revealed himself in the heavens and earth (*Psalms 19:1-6; Romans 1:20*).

God gives a witness of Himself every time it rains and you enjoy a fruitful season (*Matthew 5:45; Acts 14:17; 17:27-28*).

**If** you believe the lie of evolution, you will never see any wisdom at all!

God has revealed wisdom by His inspired Scriptures, the AV Bible (*Deuteronomy 4:5-8; Psalm 19:7-11; Isaiah 8:20*).

God has sent chosen men to preach His wisdom to you (*Jeremiah 3:15; 1Corinthians 2:6-16; Colossians 1:28-29*).

If you are reading this Proverb and its commentary, this God, has brought wisdom before your eyes. Therefore, humble yourself! Praise your Creator! Thank Him for His Word! Read it! Believe it! Obey it! Lady Wisdom is calling!

***Proverbs 1:22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?***

What have you done today to get wisdom? If you have not done much, this Proverb is for you.

Are you merely stupid and lazy? Or are you too arrogant to accept instruction from others? Or are you just, foolishly in love with yourself?

This Proverb will show which of these traits is your chief character flaw. The Proverb's questions are important: because **If** you continue in your ignorance, Lady Wisdom will soon be laughing at your calamities (*Proverbs 1:24-32*)!

Lady Wisdom offers wisdom to those who will take it (*Proverbs 1:20-23*).

So, why reject, a free offer of wisdom and understanding, which are the principal subjects of life (*Proverbs 4:7*)?

You came into this world totally simple, a scorer, and hating knowledge. You do not need to stay in that profane condition. Repent, and take Lady Wisdom's gracious offer (*Proverbs 9:1-12*).

A simple person is stupid, due to a combination of low intelligence, laziness, and apathy.

A simple person leaves the mental work to others. Simple men are very content eating, working, playing, and sleeping. They cannot perceive the value of wisdom. Pursuing wisdom sounds too hard. They wallow in simplicity until they take their last breath.

Are you a simpleton? Is your life basically getting up, going to work, eating, relaxing, and going to bed? Is getting a paycheck a real feat to you?

Do you let others study issues and provide answers? Do complex dilemmas intimidate you? Do you prefer bodily exercise over studying? **If** you answered yes to one or more of these questions, you are simple.

Lady Wisdom calls to the simple, "*How long will ye love simplicity?*" Why are you content to be a simpleton?

The Words of God can make a simple man wise. **If** the simple man will repent of his simplicity, beg God for wisdom, and search the Scriptures. God will acknowledge it (*Proverbs 1:4; Psalms 19:7; 119:130*).

**If** you neglect Lady Wisdom's offer, you will live and die in simplicity and reap the consequences.

Scorners are arrogant persons that despise those who try to correct or teach them.

Scorners are flagrantly haughty, rebellious, and stubborn. Puffed up in pride, they mock and resent any effort to improve them.

Scorners are snottily disrespectful to authority. They are the most profane character in Proverbs, their sins are hated by God and men (*Proverbs 6:16-17; 9:7-8; 24:9; 26:12*).

Reader, are you a scorer? Do you bristle at authoritative teachers, especially when they correct you?

Do you look for the faults in someone reproving you, to excuse your rebellion?

Do you enjoy snide remarks, accusing others, or seditious sowing discord to get a following?

Do you resent authority, because you believe you are at least as wise as any you have met?

Can you mock a parent or teacher, just because you disagree? **You Are A Scorer!**

But Lady Wisdom calls to scorers, "*How long will you delight in scorning?*" Why do you take pleasure in being a profane scorer?"

Though wise men are taught to ignore and reject scorers, Lady Wisdom offers wisdom even to these brute beasts (*Proverbs 9:7-8; Matthew 7:6*).

**If** they reject Lady Wisdom's offer, God will destroy them.

Fools are stubborn and lazy persons, though not as conceited and vicious as scorers.

Fools are in love with themselves, they see no need to listen to anyone or make changes in their lives. After being taught, they quickly return to their vomit and wallowing in folly (*Proverbs 26:11*).

Fools hate knowledge by resisting instruction out of love for their own thoughts (*Proverbs 18:2*).

Reader, are you a fool? Do you think you have a good head on your shoulders and do not need teachers? Are you confident you are right? Do you like the sound of your own voice?

Reader, are you better known for a sharp retort than humble listening? Do you get angry when you cannot have your way? Do you think you could be a good teacher? Do you like to surf the Internet looking for some new thing like the foolish Athenians? **Then, you are a fool!**

But Lady Wisdom also calls to fools, "*How long will you hate knowledge?*" Why do you resist learning what is right?" Though wise men are taught to shut fools up and ignore them, Lady Wisdom offers wisdom even to these stupid dolts (*Proverbs 14:7; 23:9; 26:4-5*).

**If** they do not heed Lady Wisdom's helpful offer, they will live dysfunctional lives and die hopeless deaths.

Where do you fall on this scale son? Are you a simpleton? Or are you a real fool? Or are you a haughty scorners?

**If** you have not done anything to pursue wisdom today, you are one of these three.

In any case, Lady Wisdom is offering you wisdom. **If** you refuse her offer, she will refuse to help you, when troubles come to ruin your life (*Proverbs 1:24-28*).

The Words, of the living God are before you. They can make you wise (*Psalms 119:98-100; 2Timothy 3:16-17*).

But, there is a cost, you must read and meditate on God's Words to become wise! He has sent teachers to you, especially parents to pastors. But, there is a cost, you must humbly submit to their teaching and put it into practice. (*Ecclesiastes 12:9; Jeremiah 3:15; 1Thessalonians 5:20*).

God has offered wisdom to those who will humbly beg Him for it. When did you last pray for it? (*1Kings 3:5; James 1:5*)

What will it take to get your attention? Why do you continue in your simple, scornful, or foolish ways?

What will it take to get you to leave your simplicity, your scorning, or your folly?

Will a divorce do it? A dysfunctional home? A rebellious child? Professional or financial trouble? A spell in prison? The lack of friends and church? A medical emergency? The death of a loved one?

**Lady Wisdom Offers Wisdom!  
You Better Take It!**

***Proverbs 1:23 Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.***

Today can be a turning point in your life. Lady Wisdom calls you to receive her free blessings of instruction.

Honor, riches, peace, and life can be yours, **If** you will accept her reproving invitation and enjoy the feast she has prepared. See the comments on *Proverbs 9:1*.

**If** you have already turned toward wisdom, there is higher ground to which she calls you.

You will never have all the wisdom you need. You are not yet perfect. Son, you will always see more wisdom that you do need! A wise man will hear and increase learning, and he will attain unto wise counsels (*Proverbs 1:5*).

Lady Wisdom cries for fools to end their foolish and destructive ways of living (*Proverbs 1:20-22*)!

How much more pain and trouble must you have, before you will rejoice at her offer? **If** you slight her invitation, she will cause your worst nightmares to come to pass (*Proverbs 29:1*).

Lady Wisdom, will allow distress and anguish upon you. Instead of helping in your time of need, she will laugh at you in your trauma for rejecting her! Consider it soberly, I tell you the truth. (*Proverbs 1:24-32*)

Turning requires two things: <sup>1</sup>Stop moving in one foolish direction and <sup>2</sup>start moving in a new wise direction (*Romans 12:1-2; 1Thessalonians 1:9*).

To end foolish habits and ways; you start moving in wise and righteous ways.

To end foolish habits and ways; you reject wrong training, traditions, and thoughts; you learn and obey truth and godliness.

To end foolish habits and ways: you cut out and kill things in your life wisdom does not approve of, then you add approved things to replace them.

To end foolish habits and ways: you reject sin, and you choose holiness.

Change can be difficult, and it takes conviction. The little trouble required in choosing to change, is nothing compared to the dysfunction that is coming, **If** you do not change.

**If** former friends ridicule your new priorities, ignore and leave them. Let nothing hinder your turn.

Personified wisdom, our lady here, promises two things

1. She will personally give herself to you, and
2. She will teach you an internal knowledge of her Words and ways.

If you accept her sincere invitation, she will respond with full affection, to save and to perfect you.

In the figure of personification, we see the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is filled with all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (*Colossians 2:3; 1Corinthians 1:30*).

The Lord Jesus, will pour out His Spirit to those who turn to Him, and He will teach them true wisdom (*Ephesians 1:17-18; 3:14-19; Colossians 1:9-11; 1Corinthians 2:6-16; John 14:15-27; 1John 2:20*)!

But most men rush madly through life in ignorance, stubbornness, and rebellion; and they suffer the horrible consequences of dysfunctional and painful lives now, and an eternal hell to come.

Why? Because they scorned the wisdom offered to them, at various points in their lives, and now, because of their foolish rejection, God has blinded their eyes and turned over to destruction (*Romans 1:18-32*).

What is a fool?

- Fools have better ideas;
- Fools protect their sins;
- Fools will not give up their habits;
- Fools keep foolish friends;
- Fools feed themselves the foolishness of the world;
- Fools dislike change.

Fools laugh today at wisdom's offer; but wisdom will laugh tomorrow at the fool's painful calamity! Lord, thou art very great, and man is so very stupid!

The Lord allows, the results that bring about frustrated souls, broken hearts, failed businesses, dysfunctional families, loveless marriages, bitter spirits, and hopeless lives.

Reader, the choice and its consequences are so very clear. How could any man or woman even hesitate? The reward is incredible; and the punishment severe!

How is it with you? Don't rush through these Words, without fearing your future, hearing the sincere offer, and turning your heart completely to the Lord Jesus Christ, and the heavenly wisdom He offers.

This Proverb also addresses those who fear the Lord (spiritual men). Though the rules of wisdom could benefit all men, only the righteous can hear and heed wisdom's call.

Only those turned by the Lord can truly turn from their folly and embrace wisdom. **If** you can consider

wisdom, the Lord has already turned your heart (*Jeremiah 31:18; Lamentations 5:21*). So then turn!

Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you (*James 4:8*).

Open the door, and the Lord Jesus will come in to fellowship with you (*Revelation 3:20*).

Walking with God, in heavenly wisdom, is a choice, and suffering the torments, of a painful life is the opposite choice.

*Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. Isaiah 1:18-20*

***Proverbs 1:24 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;***

Some invitations are not take-it-or-leave-it offers! **If** you disregard or refuse them, you beg for the wrath of the inviting parties. **If** a boss invites you to a meeting or a king to a dinner, you better show up.

So is God's offer of wisdom. Lady Wisdom calls to men, and they better take her offer, or she will mock them in their calamity (*Proverbs 1:20-33*).

God does not owe an answer to men who neglect truth or play with sin (*Psalms 66:18; Isaiah 9:1-2*).

**Truth And Wisdom  
Are Not Rights!**

**Truth And Wisdom  
Are Privileges!**

God offered truth and eternal life in Eden; our parents chose the devil's lie and death. We made our choice as a human race. God gave us the desire of our hearts.

Almost everyone makes the same choice every day. They think, the devil's lie and the death it brings, is better than God's truth and eternal life.

Therefore, God is Holy and just to hide truth from men who reject the truth: (*Amos 8:11-14; Matthew 11:24-26; 13:10-17; Romans 11:7-10*).

God declares truth, every day and night, by the heavens and life's blessings (*Psalms 19:1-6; Acts 14:17*).

Men are without excuse, because God plainly reveals, Himself to their minds (*Romans 1:20*).



The problem is men's hearts! They hate God's authority, and despise His laws, so they rebel to idolatry or evolution to eliminate Him.

God thus, justly blinds them and rewires their brains, and turns them over to abuse each other with sexual perversions (*Isaiah 44:9-20; Romans 1:21-32*).

God declares truth through His inspired Words, in His Word, which is preached by chosen men (*Psalms 19:7-11; Isaiah 8:20; 2Timothy 3:16-17*).

But men decide to hate the Bible for the same reasons, they hate a sovereign Creator's authority and rules that restrain the lusts screaming within them. With just judgments, God sends, strong delusions to believe lies and be damned (*2Thessalonians 2:9-12*).

King Ahab rejected God's prophet Micaiah, so the LORD gave him what he wanted, a flattering lie (*1Kings 22:1-18*).

Then Micaiah graphically described God's allowing of a lying spirit to get him to battle where he would die (*1Kings 22:19-40*). God is righteous.

Son, **If** you value anything in your heart more than God's truth, your heart will deceive you (*Ezekiel 14:1-11*)!

**If** you think you can survive without God's wisdom, He will blind you from it (*Isaiah 29:9-16*)!

Israel was offered in the Old Testament blessing, or cursing (*Deuteronomy 28:1-14; 28:15-68*).

Israel was offered New Testament blessings, or cursing (*Matthew 21:33-46; 22:1-7*).

Paul made a grand comparison of them as a warning to the Hebrews (*Hebrews 3:7-19; 4:1-11*). Beware sons!

How have you used, the God given wisdom today? Wisdom calls, from this Proverb and the rest of the Bible. Will you invest 1% of today, 14 minutes and 24 seconds, to learn? **If** not, look out!

Tomorrow may be too late. God does not have to wait for you to get serious about your life (*Proverbs 29:1; Revelation 2:21-23*).

***Proverbs 1:25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:***

Your worst nightmare is coming; God and Lady Wisdom will laugh at you and mock you (*Proverbs 1:26-27*).

You had your chance. In fact, you had many chances, but you were not interested in God's gracious offer of wisdom (*Proverbs 1:20-25*).

You were daydreaming through life; you were too busy; You were talking instead of listening. You treated His counsel as nothing, you rejected His reproofs and warnings.

Now it is too late! Before you judge this commentary as too harsh, read the Proverb in its context! Get a load of God and Lady Wisdom's ferocious reaction against impudent <sup>casual disrespect</sup> hearers (*Proverbs 1:20-33*).

Who would best explain this text? Elijah, John the Baptist, Jesus, or Paul? Or do you prefer false teachers like Schuller, Dobson, and Hinn? To get a full dose of the hammer and fire of God's Word, you need to get away from the false teachers (*Jeremiah 23:28-29*)!

**If** you attend a contemporary church or get your religion from a televangelist, you do not know the great and terrible God of the Bible (*Deuteronomy 7:10; 10:17; Psalms 47:2; 66:5; 99:3; Hebrews 10:31; 12:29*).

You have been nursed, on purpose given flavored formula, by a politically correct nursemaid, when the warning of this Proverb deserves a thundering blast from one of God's wild prophets! Your worst nightmare is coming. Who will get your attention?

God offers wisdom, through the natural creation, parents, the Bible, and His preachers.

God will not force you to listen to them, you can daydream, rebel, and do things your way, but you will pay for rejecting them (*Proverbs 1:20-33; 29:1; Malachi 2:1-3; Matthew 21:43-46; Luke 8:18*).

God does not believe in your personal rights; He declares you personally responsible for how you treat His offers (*Proverbs 12:1; 28:9; Leviticus 26:18*).

**If** you marry for love, instead of the fear of the Lord, He already sees your 50 years in marital hell (*Proverbs 31:30; 30:21-23*).

**If** you choose Spock's or Dobson's child training ideas, He already sees your calamity and shame as spoiled brats ruin your life (*Proverbs 17:25; 29:15*).

**If** you despise His warning, to work hard at a boring job, He already sees, as Ponzi schemes and network marketing scams, destroy you financially (*Proverbs 12:11; 13:11*).

**If** you choose to commit adultery against God's many warnings, He already sees the death that will surely follow (*Proverbs 2:18; 5:3-13; 7:24-27; 9:17-18*).

**If** you disobey or mock your parents, even by facial expressions, God already sees, as the eagles eat your eyeballs (*Proverbs 20:20; 30:17*).

**If** you emphasize physical appearance over character, then listen for God's laughter, as the world treats you like a grunting sow with a nose jewel (*Proverbs 11:16, 22*).

**If** you make light of your authorities, then God already sees your coming calamity (*Proverbs 24:21-22*)!

You may be, laughing now, at the efforts made by parents and pastors, to get you to consider your ways and reform your life. You may smugly think, you have things figured out and do not need to listen to them.

But God's truth will soon be clearer to you, as anguish and terrors take your soul down into oblivion, like a whirlwind, destroys everything in its path (*Proverbs 1:26-30; Psalms 2:1-5; 37:13*)

How do you treat God's offers of wisdom? Does the natural creation humble you daily about God's existence? Do you obey and honor your parents? Do you take time each day to read the Bible and meditate?

Are you attentive and focused with a ready mind to hear God's preachers explain His Words to you?

**If** you are lax in one or more of these areas, there is trouble coming; and God may not help you, even when you beg for help, because He knows your heart (*Proverbs 1:26-30; 28:9*).

***Proverbs 1:26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;***

Wisdom laughs. Wisdom mocks. You're not so tough now, fool. Wisdom laughs and ridicules men suffering from self inflicted calamities and terrorized with fear. There is no cruelty here, just the sound of divine justice making fun of fools and scorners who rejected wise instruction.

He who laughs last, laughs best. Lady Wisdom and the LORD laugh last, and best! But this is no laughing matter for us son; for these are some of the most sober Words in Scripture. Men refusing to listen to wise instruction will be destroyed without mercy (*Proverbs 1:20-32*).

Fools and scorners laugh at those who try to teach, correct, and warn them. They hate them for even trying to spoil their foolish party (*Proverbs 9:7-8*).

When a horrible calamity, lands on their heads, and painful fear arrives in their hearts, it is only fitting that Lady Wisdom, who offered to save them, should be

filled with ridicule for her enemies, as they are destroyed.

This view of wisdom, and the God of wisdom, is not popular in our effeminate and compromising generation (*2Timothy 3:4-5; Hebrews 12:28-29*).

Laughter and ridicule at the horrible pain and morbid fear of fools and scorners are right!

Do you know this God? Or do you believe fables about a make-believe sugar daddy in the sky? Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD?" and rejected Moses (*Exodus 5:2*).

But After ten horrible plagues, like frogs, lice, and flies, and funerals for all the firstborn of Egypt, his accountants, told him that Israel had left with the nation's wealth.

Pharaoh went after Israel driving furiously through the dry seabed, when suddenly, the chariot wheels came off the best chariot Egypt could produce, and Pharaoh was given a few moments to realize his chariot was moving very slowly on its axle and the waters on both sides looked very unstable!

Heaven rang with God's judgment, and the seashore rang with Israel's mocking song and dance (*Exodus 15:1-21; Romans 9:17*)!

Space and time do not permit, to tell the details of the flood, when those who laughed and mocked at Noah, were slipping under the waves with gopher wood under their fingernails, and their mouths and nasal passages full of water. It was a calamity! It was fearful!

But don't think God and wisdom were wringing their hands in regret. These drowned wretches were intolerable, wicked haters of God and were disobedient to Noah's plain preaching for 120 years (*Hebrews 11:7; 1Peter 3:18-20*).

### **Do You Know Or Understand This God?**

God is the judge of the wicked (*Psalms 37:13*).

God holds the heathen in derision (*Psalms 59:8*).

God laughed derisively when destroying His Son's enemies (*Psalms 2:4*).

God's judgment was so bad in that horrific calamity that men's hearts were failing them for fear (*Luke 21:16*).

God sent Elijah to mock the prophets of Baal and Isaiah to ridicule the idiots who made graven images (*1Kings 18:26-27; Isaiah 44:9-20*).

Then there is, the desolation of the wicked (*Psalms 52:5-7; 58:5*).

We find the sanctified martyrs in heaven rejoicing at God's vengeance (**Revelation 6:9-11; 18:20; 19:1-4**).

When Lady Wisdom, personifying God's wisdom, offers you instruction and wisdom, you better take it. Irremediable judgment is coming, **If** you do not (**Proverbs 29:1**)!

Humble yourself before His Word and tremble lest you miss a single Word! You may think, you are getting away with your carelessness, but God is about to deal with you (**Psalms 50:21-22**)!

What should we do? Our Lord Jesus said it perfectly, "*Take heed therefore how ye hear*" (**Luke 8:18**).

*And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.* (**Mark 4:24**)

And, "*Whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder*" (**Matthew 21:44**).

And "*Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him*" (**Luke 12:4-5**).

Cornelius gathered his relatives and friends to meet Peter in Caesarea. He told him bluntly, "*Thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God*" (**Acts 10:33**).

When Paul met the Lord Jesus Christ, he had the only appropriate response to the divine sovereignty of this glorious King. He said, and every sober reader should say it with him, "*Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?*" (**Acts 9:6**).

***Proverbs 1:27 When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.***

Fear, destruction, distress, anguish! These are four terrible things! They can tear your soul apart and rip your heart! They are enough to torture your spirit! They search you out and torment you even in your bed! Terror, desolation, grief, and despair are horrible punishments! God sends them on those rejecting His wisdom!

God offers wisdom for your success and happiness (**Proverbs 1:20-23, 33; 3:13-18; 8:1-21**).

Getting wisdom, and to obtain these incredible benefits, should be the most important goal in your life (**Proverbs 4:5-9; 18:1; 16:16**).

But **If** you neglect God's gracious offer, He will let destruction take hold of you by giving you what you want, and nothing will be able to save you then (**Proverbs 1:24-32; Psalm 50:22**).

This Proverb is part of Solomon's first personification of wisdom (**Proverbs 1:20-33**).

Lady Wisdom offers wisdom to foolish men, but she is ferociously vengeful to any that despise her offer (**Proverbs 1:20-33**).

She promises to laugh at your calamities and mock when you are terrified with fear, because you would not respond to her generous offer.

### **What Is Wisdom? The Power Of Right Judgment!**

Wisdom knows the truth in any matter and perfect conduct in any situation.

Wisdom clearly grasps and does those things that please God and men.

The LORD offers, wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and discretion, discernment and instruction through the natural creation and the Word of God (**Psalms 19:1-11; 119:128; Ecclesiastes 8:5; Isaiah 8:20; 2Timothy 3:16-17**).

There is no excuse for men rejecting God's truth and wisdom (**Romans 1:18-20**).

Because men do not glorify God or give Him thanks, He darkens their hearts (**Romans 1:21**).

Because men assume they are wise and honor the creature above the Creator, God gives them reprobate minds to shame each other with abominable sexual perversions (**Romans 1:22-32**).

God does not have to hear or answer your prayers. He will not even hear or answer those who reject the preaching of His Word (**Proverbs 28:9; Psalm 66:18**).

When fear ravages your soul into desolation, when destruction comes like a tornado, and when distress and anguish torture your spirit, He will laugh at your calamities.

When the true gospel is offered, you should be willing to sell all you have to buy it (**Proverbs 23:23; Matthew 13:44-46**).

The Jews made light of Jesus Christ's kingdom and persecuted His apostles, but the LORD allowed their destruction and burned up their city by the Roman armies in 70 AD (**Matthew 22:1-7**).

It is enormously much better, to repent by falling on His mercy, than to have Him fall on you and grind you to powder (*Matthew 21:44*)!

***Proverbs 1:28 Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:***

Lady Wisdom does not owe you knowledge, truth, or understanding or discretion or discernment or instruction.

God does not owe you answers to your prayers. God does not owe you His presence. God does not owe you help when you are in trouble.

God grants these and other blessings by His grace and His will. God can withdraw or revoke them whenever your conduct offends Him.

**If** you choose rebellion and sin, you will surely lose the possibility of these precious treasures (*Proverbs 15:8; 28:9; Psalm 66:18*).

For part of the first chapter, Solomon personified wisdom as a woman (*Proverbs 1:20-33*).

Lady Wisdom generously offers wisdom to simple ones, scorners, and fools (*Proverbs 1:20-23*).

She threatens and warns in severe language, that she will not help them, when they fall into trouble, **If** they reject her kind offers (*Proverbs 1:24-31*).

She concludes by explaining certain judgment on the rebellious and certain benefits on the obedient (*Proverbs 1:32-33*).

You could be in grave danger, and not even know it! You are playing with the possibility of living the rest of your life in foolish ignorance and suffering horribly. All you have to do is take life easy and neglect God's offers of wisdom.

God is not like any person you have ever met. God does not, allow games, in the serious matter of wisdom.

**If** you neglect Him, He will leave you desolate, ignorant, and doomed!

Reader, do you have idols in your heart? How about things you love too much to give up for God or wisdom, like your family, your habits, making money, following tradition, or friends?

Is there anything or anyone that you do not want to give up for God and His wisdom?

**If** this is so, here is God's sovereign promise to you: *"I will set my face against that man, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. And if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I the LORD have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand upon him, and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel. And they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity: the punishment of the prophet shall be even as the punishment of him that seeketh unto him;" *Ezekiel 14:8-10**

Reader, God can be against you, **If** you come to Him, and hold on to things of this life and neglect His offered truth!

Do you love the truth, are you unwilling to sacrifice anything for it! Is the truth, just a noble sounding concept that you neglect in your busy life?

Here is God's promise: *"And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."* (*2Thessalonians 2:11-12*).

God will allow lies to be sent to you, **If** you neglect the truth and get wrapped up in pleasures of unrighteousness. Why will He do this? Because you rejected the truth and the wisdom He freely offered you.

Most men are hopelessly ignorant for a reason. They are too lazy, proud, or rebellious to humble themselves under God's mighty hand and submit to His wisdom. Too busy for wisdom! Men think they already have things figured out.

Men do not like being told to change and live differently. Reading God's Word, and hearing it preached, are boring and tiring activities to them (*2Timothy 4:3-4*).

Men like this are doomed!

In spite of man's great efforts to exalt human rights, when it comes to dealing with God, men have duties and privileges, not rights!

### **Dealing With God, Men Have Duties And Privileges, Not Rights!**

Therefore, it is your duty son, to fear the Lord and keep His commandments, for you will soon give Him an account of your life (*Ecclesiastes 12:13-14*).

Truth and wisdom are privileges, which God does not owe you. He will only give them to you, **If** you are humble and obedient (*Isaiah 66:1-2; John 7:17*). So humble yourself today!

***Proverbs 1:29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:***

God is not obligated to hear your prayers (***Proverbs 1:24-28***).

If you neglect or reject what God offers, He promises to ignore your cries for help and turn your wickedness back on your own head (***Proverbs 1:30-32; Psalm 66:18***).

Those who are addressed by this Proverb rejected the knowledge and fear of God, turning Lady Wisdom into being their enemy. Now she laughs at their calamity!

If you do not know this God, you do not know the God of the Bible!

Lady Wisdom is speaking. She represents the wisdom God offers to men. (***Proverbs 1:20-33***)

Wisdom is plainly visible in God's creation of the heavens and earth (***Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 1:20***).

Wisdom is confirmed by His merciful providence toward men (***Matthew 5:45; Acts 14:17***).

Wisdom is revealed in God's writings, and sent men to preach His Word (***Deuteronomy 29:29; Jeremiah 3:15; Colossians 1:28-29***).

If you are too busy or too rebellious to humble yourself to this wisdom, Lady Wisdom, is now your enemy! What is the knowledge hated here (***Proverbs 1:22***)? It is the knowledge of the Holy God of the Bible, which is the beginning of understanding (***Proverbs 2:5; 9:10; 30:3***). Read also ***Hosea 4:1, 6***.

Wisdom is the instruction of parents, teachers, and pastors that define God's will for your life (***Proverbs 12:1; 15:14; 18:15; 19:27; 22:17; 23:12***).

Wisdom is the doctrine of the Word of God, that describes God, what He has done toward men, and what men must do toward Him (***Psalm 119:66; 2Timothy 3:16-17***).

What is the fear of the LORD? Have you chose it?

The fear of the LORD is reverent awe and adoring love of God that leads men to hate sin, love righteousness, delight in Him and His ways (***Proverbs 8:13; 14:27; 16:6; Psalm 111:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14***).

The fear of God, causes men to despise their own foolish hearts, and the vain opinions of others (***2Chronicles 19:7-9; Daniel 3:16-18; Hebrews 5:7***).

The fear of God, provides an anchor and a foundation for character, that keeps men from foolish compromises (***Genesis 42:18; Exodus 18:21***).

How do men hate knowledge? Is not this the information age, when men love knowledge, and learning? The only knowledge they love, is their own opinion or the opinions of others like them. True knowledge is given by God!

Men reject, the existence of God, His creation as the origin of all things, His moral absolutes for human conduct, eternal punishment, and so forth. What they call science, God calls profane and old wives' fables (***Psalms 49:6-13; 94:11; 1Timothy 4:7; 6:20***)!

How do they, not choose the fear of the LORD? Men choose to love pleasures rather than God, and they relegate God to a sub priority in their lives; they worship Him with rituals and a form of godliness, rather than in truth with their hearts and lives (***2Timothy 3:4-5***).

Men choose pastors who will entertain them with the fables in seeker sensitive ways (***2Timothy 4:3-4***).

Because they choose this modern approach to religion, God will blind and confuse them. He will not hear their prayers; He will judge them. (***Isaiah 29:13-14***)

You cannot imagine men hating knowledge? Consider the hatred Hollywood has for morality! The NEA for creation! NOW for human life! The ACLU for God and the Bible! The NFL for church on Sunday! The DNC for same-sex marriage! The Vatican for their Pope ***Matthew 23:9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.***

College fraternities for sobriety! The PTA for child discipline! MTV for parents! Labor unions for productivity! ESPN for wisdom! Wall Street for charity! Las Vegas for savings! The NBA for modesty! God will judge America!

You really cannot imagine men hating knowledge?

Consider the hatred Charles Darwin had for Genesis! Princess Diana for marital fidelity! Nietzsche for God! Picasso for beauty! Marilyn Monroe for virtue! Freud for sanity! Carl Sagan for provable science! Ben Spock for child discipline! James Dean for authority! Joseph Smith for monogamy! Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, and Jim Morrison for godliness! Karl Marx for property! Josef Stalin for benevolence? Where are these rebels today? The Pope for ***1Timothy 4:1-3***!

If a man hates God's instruction about marital fidelity, according to God's Word, the strange woman will destroy him (***Proverbs 5:3-14; 6:24-35; 7:6-27***)!

If he hates God's warnings about financial prudence, he will be destroyed monetarily (*Proverbs 6:6-11; 13:23; 14:23; 22:26-27*).

If he rejects God's rules for child training, his children will break his heart and shame him (*Proverbs 19:18, 26; 27:11; 29:15*).

If he marries an odious woman against God's warnings, he will have marital torment (*Proverbs 12:4; 21:9,19; 30:21-23; 31:30*).

### **Rejecting God's Practical Wisdom Brings Practical Destruction.**

Noah preached righteousness to his generation for 120 years. But they hated the knowledge he taught and the fear of the LORD he offered! They were confident in their Doppler weather radar, college degrees, and donations to U.N.I.C.E.F. (*Genesis 6:3; 2Peter 2:5; Hebrews 11:7*)

They rejected God's Seven Day Grace Period after 120 years of preaching. God sent a flood that drowned them all, including the young, the old, the handicapped, and the strong (*Genesis 7:4; Matthew 24:37-39*).

They cried and screamed outside the ark, but God had already shut the door (*Genesis 7:16*)!

The God of the Bible is still a consuming fire (*Hebrews 12:29*)!

It is still a fearful thing to fall into His hands (*Hebrews 10:31*)!

The Lord Jesus Christ, will rule heaven and earth with a rod of iron, when this age of Grace is over (*Revelation 2:26-27; 1Corinthians 15:25*)!

Have you looked at a political globe recently? Just ask Pharaoh! Assyria! Tyre! Babylon! Belshazzar! Persia! Xerxes! Greece! Alexander the Great! The Roman Empire! Nero! The Soviet Union! Khrushchev! And many yet to be named!

Do you hate knowledge? Have you rejected the fear of the LORD? What are you doing to pursue God's knowledge? Do you carefully read the Bible daily? Do you attend a church where it is faithfully taught? Do you consider preaching the best part of Sunday? Do you review and apply what you learn, to your life?

### **Your Thoughts Words Ideas Are Irrelevant!**

If your prayers are not heard, and your life is coming apart at the seams, consider this Proverb well!

***Proverbs 1:30 They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.***

If you reject wisdom, you will suffer painfully for it. God is not far away (*Jeremiah 23:23-24; Acts 17:27*).

God offers wisdom to any who will take it (*Proverbs 1:20-23*).

But fools will have none of His wisdom's counsel, they had no time nor interest. These foolish scorners despised wisdom's reproof, they resented correction. Such persons love death (*Proverbs 8:36*)!

Personified wisdom makes God's lessons powerful. The Holy Spirit uses them to create Lady Wisdom, a woman who offers counsel and reproofs to simple people (*Proverbs 1:20-23; 8:1-5; 9:1-6*).

In this Proverb, Lady Wisdom explained why she turned some over, to fear and pain and would not hear their cries for help (*Proverbs 1:24-31*).

They had rejected her kind offers to be wise, so she forsook them in their time of trouble. So be warned! What is wisdom? It is the power of right judgment.

Wisdom is the ability to perceive correctly, it is the ability to see hidden errors or lies, it is the ability to prioritize competing factors, it is the ability to say the right, or do the right.

It is closely related, to discretion, knowledge, prudence, and understanding.

With wisdom, men can avoid pain and trouble in their lives and find peace and prosperity instead. Without wisdom, men will fall victim to their own ignorance and stubbornness.

How does Lady Wisdom counsel or reprove men? The natural creation proves a Creator God with eternal power (*Psalms 19:1-6; Romans 1:18-21*).

In addition, Lady Wisdom, gives parents, husbands, employers, civil rulers, and preachers; like Solomon, the ability to teach small or large amounts of wisdom (*Proverbs 1:1-6; Ecclesiastes 12:8-10*).

Lady Wisdom's greatest presentation in the Bible, is the inspired book of wisdom (Proverbs) (*Deuteronomy 4:6; Psalm 1:1-3; 19:7-11; 2Timothy 3:16-17*).

How do you reject or despise Lady Wisdom's counsel or reproof? You live your life ignoring your obvious Creator (*Psalms 10:4; 14:1; 36:1-2*).

Evolutionists will be destroyed for their absurd and profane efforts to get rid of a Creator God. You can also reject your parents' instruction, which guarantees to destroy your success (*Ephesians 6:1-3*).

Any parent, has infinitely more knowledge, than any young child. God ordained parents for this very reason.

How can you reject or despise Lady Wisdom's counsel or reproof? Just neglect, mock, or disobey the Bible. The pages of Scripture contain the most wonderful history, poetry, laws, and revelation of things unknown to natural man. They are packed full of wisdom from heaven.

When was the last time you read it? Meditated on a reading? Memorized some verses? Heard it preached plainly and authoritatively? So reader, be warned!

If you do not have time or interest for the Bible, read your future in (*Proverbs 1:20-33*)!

***Proverbs 1:31 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.***

The world is getting what it wanted: wicked nations, and most families and many individuals are suffering the consequences of their choices. There is a very simple reason for the ignorant confusion and miserable pain in so many places.

When men, turn their backs on the LORD, and the knowledge He offers, God lets them have their own folly and the horrible consequences of it (*Proverbs 1:29-30*).

In the beginning Adam chose Eve and death over God and life, and all men have suffered dying and death ever since (*Romans 5:12-14*).

To obtain, a master's degree in social studies, just identify the areas of life, where men have most rejected God's wisdom and consider the painful results.

Then identify those areas of life where humanity suffers the most, and trace it back to where they despised their Creator.

You will learn the cause and nature of man's dysfunction and pain!

Men do not want God and wisdom, so He gives them each other and insanity!

Much or all of human pain is the simple result of rejecting their Creator's wisdom, which is plainly revealed in the Word of God.

Paul explained this human disaster clearly, "*Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations ... Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts ...*

*For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections ... God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient...." (Romans 1:18-32).*

Today, men here and throughout the world despise God, the Bible, and any moral restraint. They ridicule Bible preaching as something that belongs to another time and place. The Ten Commandments are outlawed in public places. Prayer is forbidden in school.

But the Koran is justified; the Bible is ridiculed. Rap stars are memorialized; preachers are satirized. The world's dysfunctional misery should be easy to identify, and easy to solve!

Parents and educators fret over children being disobedient, disrespectful, learning disabled, unruly, and violent. Many parents are ashamed of their children, to whom they gave everything! What happened?

**The problem is not difficult to solve.** This is the Benjamin Spock generation, the generation that rejects, the Bible wisdom and that rejects, children need corporal punishment to develop properly (*Proverbs 19:18; 29:15; 30:17*). Duh!

Married men are oppressed, seeking peace and relief in extra work, hobbies, or adultery. Unmarried men do not want a wife, for they have seen the great pain of being married to the hell of an odious woman (*Proverbs 30:21-23*).

How did this unbearable creature multiply so fast? Women rejected, reverence and submission, to their husbands (*Ephesians 5:33; Colossians 3:18*)! Duh! Economists scramble to cover the national debt, keep interest rates low, lower taxes, and fund new deals all at the same time! How did this mess get started? A great nation became financial surety for the world (*Proverbs 6:1-5*).

A great nation promoted pleasure over labor (*Proverbs 21:17*).

A great nation penalized savings as counterproductive, and exonerated massive debt (*Proverbs 6:6-8, 22:7*). Duh!

Children are sexually abused, on film! Mothers wring their hands and wonder why! Bible morality, was thrown out, when mommy gushed about Elvis Presley and the Beatles. Today it others like Madonna and Britney Spears.

**Once The Road Of Sexual Freedom Is Chosen, What Will Stop A Nation From Going To Hell?**

The Bible has wisely taught that love and sex were for marriage only (*Proverbs 5:19; 6:25; 1Corinthians 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4*). Duh!

Youth today shuffle around like apes, pierce every body part they can find, wear their pants at half mast, speak in guttural grunts, spike their hair, flatten their minds, and flunk a greatly degraded S.A.T. Then the NEA says, more money for education. Did someone forget, it was our schools in the first place, that told those children they came from monkeys? Duh!

Labor unions strike! Wage rates and benefits for moronic jobs go sky high! Restrictive job rules are passed! Factories close! The cost of goods skyrockets!

Products from countries where people are willing to work flood our markets. The trade deficit swells to unprecedented levels. How do we stop it? (*Ecclesiastes 10:5-7*). Duh!

Drugs, drugs, and more drugs! What will we do about the drug problem? How about outlawing college fraternity booze parties!

Solomon inspired by the Holy Spirit condemned drunkenness and gluttony among young men and its consequences (*Proverbs 20:1; 23:21, 29-35*).

But a university degree today requires hearty partying and presumes the Bible is a stupid fable! Duh!

Credit card debt is at record highs. Personal bankruptcies are Legion. Houses are bought with nothing down and interest-only payments. Yet the fools buy more on credit! Why?

Because John Maynard Keynes was the college economics text instead of Holy Spirit's Proverbs! He condemned the vanity of impulse spending (*Proverbs 14:23; 21:17, 20; 28:19*). Duh!

Two men hold hands and smile, exchange vows and rings, kiss, and walk the aisle to a honeymoon in lovers' paradise! Why don't bulls and stallions mate?

Two women walk arm in arm, exchange vows and rings, kiss, walk the aisle, and start a family with an adopted baby! Why don't lionesses and she bears mix? Yet our government smiles!

Sodomy is not a sexual or social mystery, God rewires the brains of those who have rejected him, so they are sexually confused beyond brute beasts (*Romans 1:24-27*).

When mankind turns its back on God and His wisdom, He turns them over to a reprobate mind to do things not convenient, contrary to nature, dysfunctional, painful, and shameful.

Reader, you have a choice! A simple choice! The consequences are horribly painful or pleasant. Do you want to do things God's way or your way?

If you choose your way, God will rub your face in the mess, as the Proverb declares (*Malachi 2:2-3*).

Give God the glory! Tremble before His Word! Beg for His mercy!

***Proverbs 1:32 For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.***

Why do people buy lottery tickets? They see the hyped publicity of a winner, and it deceives their foolish hearts.

Lottery tickets are a certain loss and a trap to tax the poor, who have no taxable income; yet the poor buy them, because the "winner" fools their souls. Show one winner (ignoring millions of losers), and the poor will get yet poorer.

When men reject God's offered wisdom, they are deceived with the false success of sinners (*Proverbs 1:20-29, 31-32*).

When men, see simpletons reject God's wisdom, and seemingly get away with it, they boldly follow the example.

When men, see fools enjoying apparent prosperity, they confidently follow them. In both cases, they do it to their own demise.

God said, sin blinds men that leads to death and destruction. Sinners get away with wickedness for a while which deceive others to think they can do the same.

The world is full of "success stories" of men rejecting God's wisdom; but they are deceived themselves, and they are God's means of deceiving others who have also refused His knowledge.

Even saints can fret at success of sinners. Asaph saw the wicked prospering and almost gave up his faith, but the Lord reminded him of future retribution for all men (*Psalms 73:2-14, 15-28*).

So we read, "*Fret not thyself because of evil men*" (*Proverbs 24:19-20; Psalm 37:1-20*).

God may be silent for a while, and sinners foolishly think He approves of them (*Psalm 50:16-21*).

God warns, that without repentance, He will judge severely, and only those who live uprightly and praise Him and give Him the glory shall receive His favor (*Psalm 50:21-23*).



Reader, some results prove nothing. Moses got water from the rock (*Numbers 20:7-12*); false prophets do miracles (*Deuteronomy 13:1-5*); and Israel got quail (*Psalms 106:15*). Did anyone change their ways or learn anything?

If a neighbor never disciplined his "fine children," do not regard it!

If a fornicator is living a life of luxury and pleasure, do not regard it! He is racing to death and hell without recourse (*Proverbs 9:18*)!

Wise Agur feared riches and their effect (*Proverbs 30:7-9*).

Prosperity did not help Israel, for they rebelled in their fatness (*Deuteronomy 31:20; 32:15-18*).

Beauty can be a curse (*Ezekiel 16:6-15*).

Success caused two rich men to forget their souls (*Luke 12:15-21; 16:19-31*).

The goodness of God should lead men to repentance (*Romans 2:4*).

But they take confidence in their prosperity and do not see the coming judgment (*Psalms 37:35-36; 92:6-7; Jeremiah 48:11-13*).

Our Lord saw much success, but He kept His eyes on His great work in Jerusalem. And though offered great position and prosperity, He rejected them (*John 6:15; Luke 4:5-8*).

***Proverbs 1:33 But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.***

Peace and safety, or fear and destruction? The choice is yours. Son, God offers wisdom in His Word.

If you ignore or reject wisdom, He will laugh at your fear and desert you in your calamities (*Proverbs 1:24-32*).

If you love and exalt wisdom, God will bless you with tranquility. The choice is yours. The consequences of a foolish choice are severe. Please choose wisdom!

The adversative conjunction "but" indicates a contrast. Solomon had personified wisdom as a woman in the context, and his Lady Wisdom had warned men that neglecting her offers would bring horrible pain and suffering (*Proverbs 1:20-32*).

A wise man spares himself most troubles of life, but fools are punished severely and often (*Proverbs 8:36; 13:15; 22:3*).

## **Tranquility Is A Wonderful Thing.**

Tranquility is the good life.

Tranquility is calm, happy, peaceful, and safe.

Tranquility is obtained only one way but through two doors. <sup>1</sup>The one door is wisdom. <sup>2</sup>The other door is those who fear God and keep His commandments. These will have lasting tranquility.

Men find tranquility from two sources: <sup>1</sup>the results of right decisions and <sup>2</sup>God's supernatural favor.

Consider. If you marry wisely by God's rules, you will have peace and pleasure with a virtuous woman, while other men suffer in marital hell with an odious woman (*Proverbs 12:4; 30:21-23; 31:10-31*).

By marrying a God-fearing spouse to honor God (*Proverbs 31:30; 1Corinthians 7:39; 11:11*).

God will further bless you by His divine power (*1Samuel 2:30; Psalms 37:4; 84:11*).

Wisdom is not difficult. It begins with fearing the Lord (*Proverbs 1:7; 9:10*).

Wisdom ends with keeping His commandments (*Proverbs 3:7; 16:6; Job 28:28; Psalms 111:10; 112:1; 119:128; Ecclesiastes 12:13*).

God has revealed perfect knowledge and wisdom in His Word, and learning and by obeying His Word it brings wisdom to a man or a nation (*Deuteronomy 4:5-6; Psalms 1:1-3; 19:7-11; 144:15*).

God gave Solomon tranquility for his answer in a dream (*1Kings 3:5-15*).

Solomon valued wisdom over money, success, and long life, so God blessed him with honor, peace, and riches.

King Nebuchadnezzar, a rich and very successful king, lost his tranquility and was put out to pasture for continuing in sin (*Daniel 4:27-33*).

You see son, the choice is yours!

Here are great promises! Wisdom will give you safety, and it will save you from even the fear of danger! Here is the ultimate tranquility!

No danger in sight, and no fear in your heart or mind! You can walk confidently through life and sleep sweetly at night (*Proverbs 3:21-26*)!

God kept David in the bundle of life, but He slung out his enemies to death (*1Samuel 25:29*)!

If you put your trust in God, He will protect you from every danger and risk that you can or cannot see or hear (*Psalm 91:1-16*).

Embrace wisdom now son! The righteous are bold as a lion (*Proverbs 28:1*)!

There is perfect peace that passes human understanding for those who fear God and keep His commandments (*Proverbs 14:26; Psalms 25:12-13; 112:7; Isaiah 26:3-4; Philippians 4:6-7*).

David mocked fear; he did not care if an army should declare war against him (*Psalm 27:1-14*).

Paul mocked death and the grave through Jesus Christ (*1Corinthians 15:54-58*).

Paul faced Caesar alone with the Lord with him (*2Timothy 4:16-18*).

God saved wise Noah, while He drowned the foolish world around him.

God will save wise men in the coming day of wrath, when He punishes the fools with everlasting torment, just as He saved wise Jews from the Roman destruction (*Malachi 4:1-3; Romans 8:35-39; 1Thessalonians 1:10*).

The wiser you live, the more peace you will have outside and inside (*John 14:27; 16:33; 1John 4:17-18*).

What hinders you from embracing wisdom?

Son, are you hearkening to wisdom today? Are you seeking wisdom? Loving her? And obeying her?

**Hear God Now!** *"What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth" (Psalm 34:12-16).*