



WEEK 23: Proverbs Overview

Main Point: These wise sayings are intended “to teach people to live disciplined and successful lives, to help them do what is right, just and fair” (Proverbs 1:3).

Writer: Most are introduced as “the proverbs of Solomon, David’s son, king of Israel (Proverbs 1:1). Solomon reportedly wrote 3,000 proverbs (1 Kings 4:32). Other proverbs are by a group of unidentified men simply called “the wise” (Proverbs 24:23). And one proverb each is attributed to the otherwise unknown Agur along with a king named Lemuel.

Date: Solomon reigned from about 970-930 BC. Some proverbs, however, were probably added several centuries later. King Hezekiah’s advisors were working on the collection during his reign, nearly 300 years after Solomon (Proverbs 25:1)

Location: Israel

Key Themes of the Book of Proverbs

- Practical Advice
 - o Settling Disagreements | Proverbs 18:18
 - o Cosigning Loans | Proverbs 6:1,3
 - o Calming Someone Down | Proverbs 15:1
- Sexual Morality
 - o Proverbs 6:32-33; 6:26; 5:16,18,19; 7:25,27; 5:8
- Taming the Tongue
 - o Proverbs 26:4;16:28; 12:18
- Raising Kids
 - o Proverbs 22:6; 29:17; 23:13-14; 13:24
- Laziness
 - o Proverbs 26:14; 21:5; 13:11; 12:24
- Words about Wives
 - o Proverbs 12:4; 19:13; 21:19
 - o Proverbs 31