



Talk it Over

PASTOR DAVID — PROVERBS – THE WISE, WICKED, SIMPLE, MOCKER, FOOL – 2/1-2/2

KEY SCRIPTURE

Proverbs

2:6 – For the Lord grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

8:17 – I love all who love me. Those who search will surely find me.

28:13 – People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.

11:31 – If the righteous are rewarded here on earth, what will happen to wicked sinners?

1:22 – “How long, you simpletons, will you insist on being simpleminded? How long will you mockers relish your mocking? How long will you fools hate knowledge?”

4:7 – Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment.

13:1 – A wise child accepts a parent’s discipline; a mocker refuses to listen to correction.

15:12 – Mockers hate to be corrected, so they stay away from the wise.

14:12 – There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.

1:32-33 – For simpletons turn away from me—to death. Fools are destroyed by their own complacency. But all who listen to me will live in peace, untroubled by fear of harm.

START TALKING

Proverbs are counter-cultural wisdom sayings. Poetic turns of phrase that reveal deep wisdom in just a few words. Every culture has its own proverbs and the book of Proverbs was written almost 3,000 years ago. They are routinely used to depict human nature - habits. Often, they sound contrarian: “Don’t count your chickens before they hatch.” “Actions speak louder than words.”

What are some proverbs you have heard, and what is the wisdom it communicates?

START DISCUSSING

FIVE KINDS OF PEOPLE DESCRIBED IN PROVERBS

Discuss the aspects of human nature and habits as seen through the chart below. **How do the attitudes/heart posture of each connect to their patterns of speech and their end? How does one bring about the other?**

Type - Their Response to Wisdom	Their Attitude	Their Speech	Their End
Wise - Seeks wisdom, fears the Lord	Humble and teachable	Speaks with wisdom	Prosperity and favor
Wicked - Rejects wisdom and God	Rebellious and evil	Speaks deceitfully	Destruction
Simple - Lacks discernment	Naïve and careless	Easily influenced	Can learn or be ruined
Mocker - Mocks wisdom and correction	Proud and arrogant	Scorns others	Judgment and disgrace
Fool - Hates wisdom, repeats mistakes	Self-confident and lazy	Speaks rashly	Suffers consequences

PROVERBS CHALLENGE

Many times Proverbs gives a challenge. God offers hope if we will respond to the many warnings we read.

Read the statements and verses then discuss the way back to wisdom.

If you want to be wise, seek God and His Word daily - 2:6; 8:17

If you have been wicked, repent before judgment comes. - 28:13; 11:31

If you are simple, grow in wisdom before it's too late. - 1:22; 4:7

If you have been mocking, humble yourself and listen - 13:1; 15:12

If you have been foolish, turn back to God before destruction comes. 14:12; 1:32-33

