

A · SERMON · SERIES

PROVERBS

WISDOM FOR LIFE & EVERYDAY LIVING

Overview of the Book of Proverbs Pt. 1

Introduction:

Who Wrote Proverbs? The Book of Proverbs is credited to _____. While he wrote most of it, he did not pen all of it...

When Was Proverbs Written? The Book of Proverbs was penned before Solomon's character decline, around _____ B.C.

What Is the Purpose of Proverbs? (1:2–4)

What Is Wisdom? The Hebrew word *chokmah* can refer to technical _____ (like a craftsman), but in Proverbs it means _____ for living.

Dr. Jerry Falwell: "Seeing things from _____ point of view."

Warren Wiersbe: "Wisdom is the ability to use _____."

Key Verse — Proverbs 1:_____

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

To _____ the LORD (Heb. *yir'ah*) implies deep reverence and awe that shapes how we live. Get the foundation wrong — don't start with God —

and you cannot build a life of wisdom, no matter how smart you are. Commit this verse to memory.

Outline of the Book of Proverbs

Proverbs 1 — Wisdom _____ (1:1–33)

Three critical commitments: I will listen to my parents; I will not go the way of sinners; I will accept God's Word as truth. Wisdom is personified as a _____ calling out to the simple, the scorers, and the fools — everywhere people gather, wisdom calls.

"But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil." — v. 33

Proverbs 2 — Wisdom _____ (2:1–22)

"_____ you" (v.1) and "_____ you" (v.9). Ten verbs describe the effort required to seek wisdom. When wisdom enters the heart, it protects from wicked men (v.12), the immoral woman (v.16), and every destructive path (v.20).

Proverbs 3 — Wisdom _____ (3:1–35)

A _____ among many believers. Key passages:

- Trusting the LORD — 3:5–6 (most memorized verses in all of Proverbs)
- Honoring the LORD with your firstfruits — 3:9–10
- Finding wisdom — 3:13–20

"Happy is the man who finds wisdom." (v.13) The truly happy Christian will desire _____.

Proverbs 4 — Wisdom _____ (4:1–27)

"_____ wisdom" (v.5) — Underline those two words. "The highest achievement in the universe is the attainment of _____."

Wisdom will add years to your _____ (v.10), guard your steps (v.12), and keep you on the _____ of the just (vv.14–19). It affects every part of your body:

- Your _____ — v.23: *"Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life."*
- Your mouth — v.24: Put away deceitful lips. Speak truth at all times.
- Your _____ — v.25: Look straight ahead. Keep your eyes on the right path.
- Your feet — v.26: Walk straight. Don't turn to the right or the left.

Proverbs 5 — Wisdom _____ (5:1–23)

"_____ attention to my wisdom." Solomon warns about sexual immorality and its devastating consequences. "In the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword." (v.4)

"Rejoice with the wife of your youth." (v.18) God's design for intimacy is always better than the world's counterfeit.

Proverbs 6 — Wisdom _____ (6:1–35)

Warns against co-signing for others (vv.1–5). If _____ is an issue, look at the ant — it works with purpose, preparing in summer for winter (vv.6–11). Six things the LORD _____ (vv.16–19): a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet swift to evil, a false witness, and one who sows discord.

Proverbs 7 — Wisdom _____ (7:1–27)

Build the hedge. Key words: " _____ " (vv.1–2) · " _____ " (v.3 — fingers as reminders) · "write them on the tablet of your _____ " (v.3) · "say to _____ " (v.4) — that they may keep you from the immoral woman (v.5). The house of the immoral woman leads to hell and death.

Proverbs 8 — Wisdom _____ (8:1–36)

Called the crown _____ of Proverbs 1–9. Lady Wisdom calls (8:2). Wisdom is better than silver, gold, and _____ — nothing compares to her (8:10–11). Many scholars believe wisdom here points to _____. Jesus is "*the wisdom of God*" (1 Cor. 1:24). Wisdom was present at _____ (8:22–31).

A person is _____ when they listen to wisdom (8:34). Find wisdom (Christ) and you find life (8:35).

Proverbs 9 — Wisdom _____ (9:1–18)

Two competing _____ : Wisdom's feast (9:1–12) and Folly's table (9:13–18). Both call the same guests. Wisdom offers life; Folly promises "stolen waters are sweet" (9:17) — but her house leads to the depths of hell. Proverbs 9:10 mirrors 1:7 as a literary _____, bracketing all of chapters 1–9 as one unified movement.

Conclusion: Nine chapters in, and the road map is before us. Solomon opened with a _____ (Ch. 1) — *the fear of the Lord* — then spent nine chapters showing what that foundation looks like. Every chapter offers the same _____ in the road: wisdom or folly. Solomon isn't simply informing us — he's confronting us. He wants a decision, not just a definition. "Get _____, and whatever else you get, get understanding." — The invitation is still standing. Which _____ have you been listening to?