

Proverbs 2-3 – 17 September 2026

“The Power Of Wisdom”

Introduction

*The Book of Proverbs is broken into 5 sections

*Chap 1-9 (Solomon – the only long form)

*Chap 10-24 (Solomon – short form)

*Chap 25-29 (Solomon – compiled later by Hez)

*Chap 30 (Unknown man Agur)

*Chap 31 (Unknown King Lemuel)

*Chap 1:1-7, 31:10-31 (Unknown book compiler)

*Looking at 1st section (Chap 1-9), we quickly see the entire section is about wisdom

*Chap 1 we looked at how to start down the path to gain wisdom

*Chap 2 now we analyze the power of wisdom

Today, we'll see 5 attributes of true wisdom

#1 – Wisdom comes from God’s Word (Chap 2:1-9)

Read 2:1-5

1. What are we to go after?
 - a. Scripture – it’s the very knowledge of God
 - b. We’ve been **given** to read what we had no ability before to come to know
2. How are we to go after the knowledge of God?
 - a. Receive it as treasure to hoard (vs 1,4)
 - b. We’re to receive it with the ear (vs 2), the voice (vs 3), the feet (vs 4) and the heart (vs 2)
3. This is all contingent upon our **choice**
 - a. **If** you receive it (vs 1)
 - b. **Make** your ear & heart turn toward it (vs 2)
 - c. **If** you call out (vs 3), **If** you seek (vs 4)
 - d. **Then** you will... (vs 5)
4. If we choose this path to wisdom, it **will** have the result of making us live w/ the fear of the Lord
 - a. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge & wisdom (Prov 1:7 & 9:10)
 - b. The fear of the Lord is to hate evil & remove ourselves from it (Prov 8:13 & 16:6)

- c. The fear of the Lord will prolong life (Prov 10:27, 14:27, 19:23)

Read 2:6-9

1. Protection comes from God alone
 - a. God will guard & preserve those that come
 - b. This admits that we have enemies
2. Every good path in life comes from God alone
 - a. At every fork in the road, we can draw from God's wisdom and understanding

#2 – Wisdom is designed to protect us (Chap 2:10-22)

Read 2:10-11

1. These verses reenforce the protection of God's wisdom spoken of in vs 7-8
2. God's wisdom can saturate our dry hearts & minds like a dry sponge emersed in Him

Read 2:12-15

1. There is a very real danger from walking thru this life unprotected by the wisdom of God

- a. We would hear & listen to the perverse things of evil men (vs 12)
- b. We would be in darkness not knowing of the harm that needs sidestepped (vs 13)
- 2. It's not good enough that they do evil, they want you to believe that sin is enjoyable

Read 2:16-20

- 1. We get much more about this foreign woman in Prov 5 & 7
 - a. She's strange (foreign) in that she's not the woman God intended to be your wife
- 2. One of the biggest things keeping us from seeking God's wisdom is the temptress' allure
 - a. (Vs 16) She flatters with her lips – Flattery is saying to one's face what you would never say behind their back & gossip is the opposite
 - b. (Vs 17) She's unfaithful to you – using use
 - c. If you give yourself to her – there's no return

Read 2:21-22

- 1. There is a divide coming
- 2. Choose God's wisdom to avoid this condemnation

#3 – Wisdom will lead you to good decisions (Chap 3:1-12)

Read 3:1-4

1. As we're given God's wisdom, we must choose to retain it & attach it to our lives
2. This will have the effect of a peaceful long life
 - a. This doesn't mean that your whole life will be without conflict but that we'll avoid conflict that sin would have had us surrender to
 - b. This doesn't mean we'll live until we're old but that we'll avoid death traps by this wisdom
3. Proverbs aren't ridged laws but principles

Read 3:5-6

1. The Lord has the wisdom that we don't have
2. We're called to believe that He's both willing and ability to provide what we need

Read 3:7-8

1. How many times have we seen the opposite
 - a. People say, "We got this" w/o praying on it

2. The problem with being ‘wise in our own eyes’ is that we developed the plan, not God
3. Notice that wisdom doesn’t just improve us mentally, but in all ways even physically
 - a. Read I Thes 5:23

Read 3:9-10

1. Growing in God’s wisdom will affect every area of life including finances
2. We’ll put God first in priority in ***all*** things
3. It’s not that giving money to God increases our savings; it’s that living in godly character w/ our finances will increase our savings more than otherwise

Read 3:11-12

1. In the process of growing in wisdom, we will make mistakes
2. Be ready to accept God’s adjustment in our life
3. Receive God’s corrections b/c it’s His love

#4 – Wisdom is valuable & powerful (Chap 3:13-26)

Read 3:13-18

1. Wisdom is the most valuable thing to obtain
 - a. It can't be stolen like money
 - b. It can't lose or fade in value
2. On this side of eternity, there's nothing greater to pursue and only the Lord God has it
3. Wisdom leads us to a prosperous, long life
 - a. This is 3rd mention in 2 chapters of this benefit

Read 3:19-22

1. God's wisdom is so powerful it's how He created the universe and caused Noah's Flood
2. Let us not forsake something that powerful that can change us

Read 23-26

1. When we're living in sin, we're always looking over our shoulder for what's coming
 - a. Worried we'll be caught in a lie

- b. Worried we'll be caught being unfaithful
- 2. When we're living in God's wisdom, we're living in confidence
 - a. No matter what a day brings, we can rest
 - b. No matter what comes, we can face it

#5 – Wisdom is to be used as the basis of our interactions with others (Chap 3:27-35)

Read 3:27-30

- 1. There are sins of commission (vs 29-30)
- 2. There are also sins of omission (vs 27-28)
 - a. Read Jam 4:17
- 3. We often pray for God's wisdom to keep us from evil, but do we pray for God to lead us into good

Read 3:31-32

- 1. This is a lot like the expression to “use brains, not brawn”
- 2. Jesus' wisdom avoided many situations that the average man would try fighting out of

Read 3:33-35

1. We're left with a sense of delayed gratification
2. Though the wicked endure and obtain good, they are cursed to end
3. Though the righteous endure hard circumstances, they *will* inherit the glorious things

Conclusion

What do you see here regarding the nature of wisdom? Does something surprise you here?

1. **Wisdom comes from God's Word alone**
2. **Wisdom is designed to protect us as a shield**
3. **Wisdom will lead us to make good decisions**
4. **Wisdom is valuable, worth obtaining and powerful to make necessary changes to even the worst of sinners**
5. **Wisdom is the best basis by which to engage with each other**