Main Idea: The Pursuit of Wisdom Starts with a True Understanding of God

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1. Introduction to Proverbs (1)

Proverbs 1:1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: 2 To know wisdom and instruction, To discern the sayings of understanding, 3 To receive instruction in wise behavior, Righteousness, justice and equity; 4 To give prudence to the naive, To the youth knowledge and discretion, 5 A wise man will hear and increase in learning, And a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel, 6 To understand a proverb and a figure, The words of the wise and their riddles. 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

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1. Introduction to Proverbs (1)

"Proverbs deals with the most fundamental skill of all: practical righteousness before God in every area of life." - Talk Thru The Bible (Wilkerson)

"The proverbs are general statements and illustrations of timeless truth, which allow for, but do not condone exceptions to the rule." - Talk Thru The Bible (Wilkerson)

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- 2. Purpose of Proverbs (2-6)

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  - 1. Know

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- 2. Purpose of Proverbs (2-6)
  - 1. Know
  - 2. Discern

Proverbs 2:1 My son, if you will receive my words And treasure my commandments within you, 2 Make your ear attentive to wisdom, Incline your heart to understanding; 3 For if you cry for discernment, Lift your voice for understanding; 4 If you seek her as silver And search for her as for hidden treasures; 5 Then you will discern the fear of the Lord And discover the knowledge of God. 6 For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. 7 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity, 8 Guarding the paths of justice, And He preserves the way of His godly ones. 9 Then you will discern righteousness and justice And equity and every good course.

- 1. Introduction to Proverbs (1)
- 2. Purpose of Proverbs (2-6)
  - 1. Know
  - 2. Discern
  - 3. Give

Psalm 19:7 The law of the Lord is perfect; restoring the soul. The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

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  - 2. Discern
  - 3. Give
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  - 4. Receive
  - 5. Hear and Increase

Proverbs 9:8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you, Reprove a wise man and he will love you. 9 Give instruction to a wise man and he will be still wiser, Teach a righteous man and he will increase his learning.

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Proverbs 4:4 Then he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; Keep my commandments and live; 5 Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth. 6 "Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you. 7 "The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom; And with all your acquiring, get understanding.

- 1. Introduction to Proverbs (1)
- 2. Purpose of Proverbs (2-6)
  - 1. Know
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  - 3. Give
  - 4. Receive
  - 5. Hear and Increase
  - 6. Acquire
  - 7. Understand

Hebrews 5:12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

- 1. Introduction to Proverbs (1)
- 2. Purpose of Proverbs (2-6)
- 3. Theme of Proverbs (7)

"Wisdom is not simply a matter of the intellect - it is viewing life and self from God's perspective, which is the only true and valid perspective. A wise person is able to deal with life's issues and problems with the advantage of God's viewpoint... A proper view of God that results in a right relationship with God." - Paul Beware

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And the cleverness of the clever I will set aside." 20 Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. 22 For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; 23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, 24 but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

1. Fear the Lord

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- 2. Pursue Wisdom

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- 2. Pursue Wisdom
- 3. Do Not Despise Instruction