

# Proverbs 2

# Proverbs 1-9 Outline

- ◆ 1:1-7 – Intro: purpose and thesis statement
- ◆ 1:8-19 – Lesson 1: Wisdom is not seeking unjust gain
- ◆ 1:20-33 – Wisdom cries aloud making herself known
- ◆ 2:1-22 – Lesson 2: Wisdom will protect you
- ◆ 3:1-10 – Lesson 3: Wisdom is trusting the Lord
- ◆ 3:11-20 – Lesson 4: Wisdom understands the reproof of the Lord
- ◆ 3:21-35 – Lesson 5: Wisdom is treating others fairly
- ◆ 4:1-9 – Lesson 6: Wisdom has proved itself good
- ◆ 4:10-19 – Lesson 7: Wisdom is following the paths of uprightness
- ◆ 4:20-27 – Lesson 8: Wisdom is being watchful of your motives and actions
- ◆ 5:1-23 – Lesson 9: Wisdom is keeping oneself from sexual immorality
- ◆ 6:1-19 – Lesson 10: Wisdom is watching the company you keep
- ◆ 6:20-35 – Lesson 11: Wisdom is keeping oneself from sexual immorality (continued)
- ◆ 7:1-27 – Lesson 12 – Wisdom is avoiding the adulteress
- ◆ 8:1-36 – Wisdom brings with it blessing
- ◆ 9:1-12 – Wisdom's way summarized
- ◆ 9:13-18 – Folly's way summarized

# Definitions to Remember

- ◊ Receive – bring into one's possession
- ◊ Attentive – Accept information and respond to it
- ◊ Wisdom – The capacity to understand and so have skill in living
- ◊ Understanding – Capacity for discerning a right course of action/logic and reasoning
- ◊ Insight – A good sense or wisdom to respond properly to the Lord
- ◊ Seek – Search for and try to learn information about an object
- ◊ Understand – Be able to comprehend information and be able to make proper decisions
- ◊ Knowledge – Information of a person with a strong implication of relationship
- ◊ Justice – Fairness
- ◊ Righteousness – The act of doing what is required according to a standard
- ◊ Discretion - The ability to make proper decisions
- ◊ Integrity – Doing the right thing even when no one is looking, a clear conscience



# Tree of Life

## ◆ The 'tree of life' is alluded to 4x in Proverbs

- ◆ Proverbs 3:18: 'She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed'
- ◆ Proverbs 11:30: 'the fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and whoever captures souls is wise'
- ◆ Proverbs 13:12: 'Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life'
- ◆ Proverbs 15:4: A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit'



"It's good to have the things money can buy, provided you don't lose the things money can't buy. What good is an expensive house if there's no happy home within it? Happiness, pleasantness, and peace aren't the guaranteed by-products of financial success, but they are guaranteed to the person who lives by God's wisdom. Wisdom becomes a 'tree of life' to the believer who takes hold of her, and this is a foretaste of heaven (Rev. 22:1-2).“ - Wiersbe

# The Fear of The Lord

- ◆ 1:7 – The beginning of knowledge
- ◆ 8:13 – It is the hatred of evil
- ◆ 9:10 – It is the beginning of wisdom
- ◆ 10:27 – It prolongs life
- ◆ 14:26-27 – It provides a strong confidence and is a fountain of life
- ◆ 15:15 – It is instruction in wisdom
- ◆ 16:6 – By it one turns away from evil
- ◆ 19:23 – It leads to life
- ◆ 28:14 – Blessed is the one who fears the Lord, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity

# A Kings Folly

- ◆ 1 Kings 11 - Solomon turns from the Lord, he had been gathering gold, girls (wives) and giddy up which God had told them not to do in Deut. 17:16-17 because He knew it would turn their hearts away from Him
- ◆ Lord raises adversaries against Solomon and ultimately the kingdom is divided into the 10 northern tribes and southern tribe(s) Judah (and Benjamin)
- ◆ Jeroboam is king of the northern tribes and Rehoboam (Solomon's son) is king of the southern tribes
- ◆ 1 Kings 12 – Rehoboam ignores the counsel of the elders, listens to his young friends, ignores the people and makes their burdens heavy and their work harder ‘My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.’ 1 Kings 12:14.
- ◆ Rehoboam slept through his lessons and ignored good advice – he rejected wisdom



The fear of the Lord is not just a right view of God, but it is a right relationship with God

# The Benefits of Wisdom

- ◇ v. 7 - He stores up wisdom for the upright
- ◇ v. 7 - He is a shield to those who walk in integrity
- ◇ v. 8 - He guards the paths of justice and watches over His saints
  - ◇ God is *close* God is *relational* God is *active* to His saints
- ◇ v. 10 - Wisdom will come into your heart
- ◇ v. 11 - Discretion will watch over you and understanding guard you
- ◇ v. 12-15 - You will be delivered from evil and the temptations of the world
- ◇ v. 16-19 – You will be delivered from the forbidden woman

# A King of Prudence

- ◆ 2 Kings 22 Josiah an 8-year-old becomes king, and it says that he did what was right in the sight of the Lord
- ◆ They find the book of the Law (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers Deuteronomy) read it and tear their clothes and weep because they realize they have been disobeying God
- ◆ Josiah reads the words the nation – they commit to obeying the Lord
- ◆ Josiah has the most extensive reforms of any king – he restores the temple, tears down the false places of worship, he restores Passover and leads the nation in serving and obeying God



# The End of Each

- ◆ The way of wisdom leads to life with God
- ◆ The way of folly leads to death and separation from God

# Questions

- ◆ Do you fear the Lord?
- ◆ Are you pushing others to fear the Lord and to grow in wisdom?
- ◆ Are you searching after wisdom and holding a relationship with God as the most important thing? Does your life reflect that? Would others say this is true of you?
- ◆ When faced with a difficult situation where do you turn to for wisdom?
- ◆ How can you teach the next generation to value the pursuit of Godly wisdom?