

Bible Study – Outline

PROVERBS

The book of wisdom and what life is all about

“Reading a proverb takes seconds; memorizing a proverb takes minutes; applying a proverb takes a lifetime.” Ray Stedman

Summary

Time Period Sometime between 950 to 700BC

Authors Solomon, Agur, Lemuel

Why the book of Proverbs?

Proverbs 1: 2 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; 3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; 4 for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young— 5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance— 6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise

Major Theme(s)

1. Wisdom
2. Relationships
3. Speech
4. Work
5. Success

THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

INTRODUCTION; THE PURPOSE OF PROVERBS IS WISDOM	1:1-7
Theme: The Value of Wisdom	1:1-5
PROVERBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	1 - 9
Theme: The advice about life from a wise experienced father	
PROVERBS OF SOLOMON	10 - 24
The first collection of Solomon's wise sayings, compiled by Solomon himself	
Theme: The principles of wisdom for godly living	
PROVERBS OF SOLOMON	25 - 29
The second collection of Solomon's wise sayings compiled by Hezekiah	
PROVERBS OF AGUR	30
Theme; Humility, righteous living, and learning wisdom from observations of the animal kingdom	
PROVERBS OF LEMUEL	31
Theme: Wisdom learned by King Lemuel from his mother's knee	
Principles of godly living	31:1 - 9
The description of a virtuous wife	31:10 - 31

A few Key Scriptures

Prov. 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge

Prov. 2:12 For whom the Lord loves, He corrects...

Prov. 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart lean not to your own understanding; in your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. "

Prov.3:35 The wise inherit honor, but fools get only shame.

Prov. 4:5 Get wisdom get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

Prov. 6:16 The seven things God hates – proud look, lying tongue, shedding of innocent blood, wicked imaginations, running to mischief, lies, sowing discord among brethren

Prov. 8:11 Wisdom is better than rubies....

Prov. 8:13 The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and perverse speech do I hate.

Prov. 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety (KJV). (See also NIV translation)

Prov. 12:25 Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.(NIV)

Prov.15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

Prov.16:9 A mans heart devises his way, but the Lord directs his steps.

Prov. 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Prov. 17:28 Even a fool, when he holds his peace, is counted wise; and he that shuts his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.

Prov. 21:21 He that follows after righteousness and mercy finds life, righteousness and honor.

Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Prov. 22:29 See a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings;

Prov. 24:16 For a just man falls seven times and rises up again; but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

Prov. 25: 19 Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.

Prov. 27:9 Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart, so does the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.

Prov. 27:20 Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

Prov. 28:26 He that trusts in his own heart is a fool.

Prov. 29:18 Where there is no vision the people perish; but he who keeps the law, happy is he.

Topic	Proverbs Chapters
The Person who has wisdom	3 - 4, 8 - 9
Things God hates	3, 6, 12, 15 - 17
Wisdom	8
Advice about money	11, 17 - 27
Teaching and Learning	10, 12, 13,15, 21,23, 24, 31
How God is described	11, 15, 16 - 18, 21,22,28
Humility and Pride	11,13,15,16,18,29
Diligence and Laziness	10,12-15,18- 22,24,28
Leadership	12,13,17,18,24,26- 29

Discussion Questions

1. What is the difference between knowledge and wisdom?
2. What does it mean to “fear” the Lord Prov. 1:7
3. What are the rewards of wisdom? Prov. 3:13-18
4. Why is Proverbs 31:10-31 important for both men and women?
5. Is Prov. 22:6 a certainty?
6. What is your understanding of Prov. 27:20?

Resources Used

www.biblestudytools.com

www.biblegateway.com

www.biblehub.com

www.raystedman.org

Adventuring Through the Bible by Ray Stedman
NIV – Life Application Bible