

# PROVERBIAL LIFE LESSONS

Because Proverbs touches on every area of our life, it is a favorite book of believers. It is not only relevant to life, but also shows that אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) is interested in every area of our life. Proverbs are Pro-verbs, which describe positive actions, showing us how to live. The over-all lesson of the Book of Proverbs is that Wisdom comes from אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah)'s Ruch Ah Qudesh.

The purpose of the book of Proverbs is clearly to show the reader how to live life wisely or skillfully. As a matter of fact, the entire structure of the book is arranged to carry out this purpose. In the Introductions (1:1-7), the title, purpose, and motto of the book are clearly spelled out. Beginning (in 1:8), there are ten (10) consecutive exhortations, each beginning with the words "my son". In this series of exhortations, the father sets before the Son "Revelation of the two (2) Ways": The Way of Wisdom and the Way of Folly.

These passages do not contain individual proverbs, but consist of brief, logically argued, formally and systematically serving to entice the son's appetite to apply the actual proverbs (10:1). In (Proverbs 10:1 – 22:6), there are 375 proverbs of Solomon, each of which represents in some way the choice to be made between Wisdom and Folly. The remaining 284 verses are divided among several authors, but they likewise carry on the same theme.

There is an ordered flow of thought in the first nine (9) chapters of the book. The best way to study the latter section is by topics. A simple reading or examining of the subjects covered leaves the distinct impression that Wisdom is a prerequisite to skillfully dealing with every area of life. Indeed, this is the very aim of the authors!

These topics include: family, death, life, discretion, eating, enemies, the Fear of אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah), the fool, friendship, the heart (or mind), the home, the king, knowledge, labor, Turah, lazy people, love, neighbors, Shalum (Peace), poverty, prayer, pride, riches, Righteousness, sex, shame, sin, sleep, soul, spirit, the tongue, trust, the wicked, wine, Wisdom, women and words. If one instills into his life the moral discipline commanded (1-9), and masters the practical application of Wisdom expressed (10-31), he will truly have an abundant and successful life.

## 𐤒𐤌𐤍 (MSHL/ MASHAL), PROVERB

𐤍 (Mem), Chaos, Mighty, Blood

𐤌 (Shin), Sharp, Press, Eat, Consume, Destroy, Change, Return

𐤒 (Lamed), Staff, Goad, Control, Teach, Yoke, Toward, Bind

Mashal = Mighty, Change, Towards

"Proverb" is a translation of the Hebrew word Mashal (4912) meaning: to represent, be like. Mashal in some original sense of superiority in mental action; properly, a pithy maxim, usually of metaphorical nature; hence, a simile (as an adage, poem, discourse) -- byword, like, comparison, parable, proverb. Typically, a pithy, easily memorized aphoristic saying based on experience and universal in application.

## IMPORTANCE OF PROVERBS

Proverbs accomplishes something no other Scriptural book does: it simply compiles numerous short instructions for living a Wise and Prosperous life on earth. Proverbs concerns itself completely with instructing people in the

path of Wisdom. The writers of the book recognized the varied circumstances of a person's life and provided principles to apply in a variety of situations rather than instructions to follow in only a few specific instances.

Proverbs reveals its theme very early in the book: "The Fear of אַיָּאֵל (Yahuah) is the beginning of Knowledge" (**Proverbs 1:7**). The Fear of אַיָּאֵל (Yahuah) refers to our viewing Him and his Ways with the respect deserved. It means living our lives in light of what we know of Him, holding Him in the highest position, and depending on Him with humble trust. Only then Proverbs teaches, will we discover Knowledge and Wisdom (**9:10**).

In writing the Proverbs, Solomon hoped that his readers would attain practical Righteousness in all things and that we would do this by living our lives under the authority and direction of אַיָּאֵל (Yahuah). He specifically explained the book's purpose in **1:2–6**, focusing on imparting understanding that would impact every facet of our lives. Much of the book emphasizes about listening to others so that we might learn from them and apply the combined knowledge of those who have gone before us, such as parents and elders, to the unique circumstances of our own lives (**1:5, 8**). Wisdom then involves appropriating a measure of humility, first before אַיָּאֵל (Yahuah) and then before others. If instead, we decide to speak rashly rather than listen attentively . . . well, Proverbs deals with that too (**12:15; 13:3**).

## **FIVE (5) OBJECTIVES OF PROVERBS**

- (1) To know Wisdom and Instruction,
- (2) To perceive Words of Understanding,
- (3) To receive Instruction of Wisdom, Justice, Judgment and Equity, so that we know what is Right (Righteous).
- (4) To give Subtle, Simple, Knowledge and Discretion to a young person
- (5) To deeply understand the Words of the Wise.

## **THE CALL OF WISDOM**

Wisdom comes from אַיָּאֵל (Yahuah), but we have to seek it out (**Proverbs 2:1-12**). We should not stop with fearing אַיָּאֵל (Yahuah), but go on through much study to learn more of אַיָּאֵל (Yahuah)'s Truth and increase in Wisdom. This will keep us from making tragic errors in judgment (**Proverbs 7:6-23**), and bring abundant Barakah (Blessings) **Proverbs 8:35**.

Can we learn from Solomon, who started out seeking Wisdom, and later turned from the Almighty to serve idols, and experience life apart from the Creator? Solomon was the ideal author for Proverbs, because he is an object lesson for us. His failures validate the truths he presents.

## **WISDOM**

חָכְמָה (Hhkmah): חָ (Hhet) Divide, Separate. כָּ (Kaph) Bend, Open, Allow, Tame. מַי (Mem) Water, Mighty, Blood. הִי (Hey) Look, Reveal.

The Hebrew noun חֹכְמָה Chokmah Strong's 2451, is the Hebrew word for "Wisdom". The word occurs 149 times in the Masoretic text of the Hebrew Scripture. The word "Wisdom" is translated from the Hebrew word "Hhakhmah," meaning "Wisdom, Skill": - Skillful, Wisely, wit"; "to be or become Wise. The word denotes the acquisition of the habit of Wisdom, by experience, by the receiving of Instruction, and by the exercising of correct Judgment; Wise-hearted".

"Wisdom" is also given as meaning "to Discern, to perceive; to Discern mentally, to Understand; to have Understanding, to be Intelligent, Wise; Discreet". 1. The ability or result of an ability to think and act utilizing knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense, and insight. 2. accumulated knowledge, erudition, or

enlightenment 4. soundness of mind”.

Proverbs show that Wisdom begins with a Right relationship with **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah), (**Proverbs 1:7, 9:10**). Unless you "fear **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah)", meaning to Revere and Respect Him in a Right Relationship, you cannot live an abundant life.

**Proverbs 1:7** The fear of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is the beginning of Knowledge, but fools despise Wisdom

**Proverbs 1:20-33** Wisdom cries out, but few listen

**Proverbs 2:1-9** Seek Wisdom, **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) will give it

**Proverbs 2:10-15** Wisdom produces discretion, preserves you from the evil man

**Proverbs 2:16-19** Wisdom delivers you from the strange woman

**Proverbs 2:20-22** Wisdom leads you to walk in the paths of Righteousness with other good men

**Proverbs 3:21** Keep sound Wisdom and Discretion

**Proverbs 3:35** The Wise shall inherit glory

**Proverbs 4:7** Wisdom is the principal thing, with Understanding

**Proverbs 14:12** A Way seems right to a man, but ends in Death

**Proverbs 16:16** Wisdom better than gold, understanding better than silver

**Proverbs 16:25** A Way seems right to man, ends in death

**Proverbs 27:12** A prudent man foresees the evil, and hides himself

**Proverbs 31:4-5** Rulers shouldn't drink wine, lest they forget Torah (law) & pervert Judgment

**Proverbs 9:10** The fear of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is the beginning of Wisdom, and the Knowledge of the Qadosh (Holy) One (1) is insight.

**Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

**Proverbs 1:29** Haters of Knowledge don't choose to fear **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 1:33** Listen to **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah), and you will be quiet from fear of evil

**Proverbs 2:4-5** Seek Wisdom, and you will Understand the fear of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 3:6** Acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths

**Proverbs 3:7** Fear of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is to depart from evil

**Proverbs 3:24** When you lie down, you shall not be afraid

**Proverbs 8:13** Fear **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is to hate evil

**Proverbs 10:27** Fear **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) prolongs your life

**Proverbs 14:26-27** Fear **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) is a fountain of life

**Proverbs 15:16** Better a little with fear of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) than great treasure with trouble

**Proverbs 19:23** Fear of **אֱלֹהִים** (Yahuah) tends to life.

The scoffer is cynical and sarcastic toward **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)'s Wisdom and can't live Rightly because of his attitude. And, worse of all, the Fool has rejected **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)'s Wisdom, lives wickedly, and will ultimately suffer the consequences of Sin. So, be Wise and listen to the Wisdom of Proverbs. Wisdom will protect her students (**2:8**), Wisdom will direct her students (**3:5-6**), Wisdom will perfect her students (**4:18**)

## WISE

**ח** **פ** **ח**, **ח** (Hhet): Divide, Separate. **פ** (Kaph) Bend, Open, Allow, Tame. **מ** (Mem) Water, Mighty, Blood. (Hhakam/Chakam), Strong's 2449, means; "to be Wise", or Strong's 2450 Wise).

The Hebrew word Hhakam is related to the idea of "Separating," as this word means "one who is able to separate between what is good and what is evil (bad)." This one word can be translated as either "Skill" when applied to a craftsman, or as "Wise" when applied to a leader or counselor.

and now send for me a man of skill (Hhakam) to work in gold... **2 Chronicles 2:7**

Provide for yourselves Wise (Hhakam) men and understanding and knowing for your tribes and I will set them as rulers over you. **Deuteronomy 1:13**

**יְהוָה** (Yahuah) spoke these words concerning Bezalel: "And I have filled him with the Ruch (Spirit) of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), in **Wisdom** ("Hhokmah, 2451"), in **Understanding** ("tebunah, 8394"), in **Knowledge** ("daat, 1847"), and in all manner of workmanship . . ." **Exodus 31:3**

The word "Understanding" is translated from the Hebrew word "tebunah," meaning "to separate, to distinguish; hence, to discern, to mark, to understand, all which depend on the power of separating, distinguishing, discriminating; specially to discern, perceive; to discern mentally, to understand; insight, understanding"; "discretion, reason, skillfulness, understanding, wisdom".

The word "Knowledge" is translated from the Hebrew word "Daat," meaning "cunning Knowledge", to perceive, to be sensible of, by sight, by touch, but chiefly in the mind; hence, to understand, observe; to consider; to mark and observe with a purpose.

With each of these three (3) words there is a "cross-over" of meanings; they tend to blend into one another. They all have to do with perceiving and discerning in order to act wisely, with understanding and in genuine knowledge that glorifies **יְהוָה** (Yahuah). It is about learning to know what to do with what we know through Wisdom, Understanding and Knowledge.

## WISE COUNSEL

One should seek, and listen to, Wise counsel in order to make proper decisions.

**Proverbs 11:14** In the multitude of counsel there is safety

**Proverbs 12:15** He that hearkens to counsel is Wise

**Proverbs 15:22** Without counsel, purposes are disappointed

**Proverbs 19:20-21** Hear counsel, receive wise instruction from **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 20:18** Every purpose is established by counsel

**Proverbs 20:5** Counsel is like deep water, needs to be drawn out

**Proverbs 24:6** In the multitude of counselors there is safety

**Proverbs 27:9** Hearty counsel rejoices the heart

**Proverbs 14:35** Kings favor a Wise Servant

**Proverbs 22:17** Apply your Heart to **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)'s Knowledge (**23:12**)

**Proverbs 24:3** Through Wisdom a house is built

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CHILDREN**

**Proverbs 1:8-9** Listen to your parents' instruction

**Proverbs 1:10-19** Don't be enticed by sinners, sin results in misery and death

**Proverbs 2:1-4** Listen to Wisdom, cry out for, seek her as silver

**Proverbs 3:1** Don't forget אִשְׂרָאֵל (Yahuah)'s Torah and Commandments

**Proverbs 3:11-12** Don't despise אִשְׂרָאֵל (Yahuah)'s chastening

**Proverbs 4:1** Hear children, the instruction of your fathers

**Proverbs 10:1** A Wise son makes a glad father

**Proverbs 13:1** A Wise son hears his father's instruction

**Proverbs 13:22** A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children

**Proverbs 13:24** He that spares his rod hates his son

**Proverbs 15:20** A Wise son makes a glad father

**Proverbs 17:6** Grandchildren are the crown of old men, the glory of children are their fathers

**Proverbs 17:25** A foolish son is grief and bitterness to his parents

**Proverbs 19:13** A foolish son is the calamity of his father

**Proverbs 19:18** Chasten your son while there is hope

**Proverbs 19:26-27** He that wastes his father, chases away his mother, causes shame, brings reproach

**Proverbs 20:7** A just man's children are Baruk (Blessed) after him

**Proverbs 20:11** Even a child is known by his doings

**Proverbs 20:20** Whoso curses his parents, his candle shall be put out

**Proverbs 22:6** Train up a child in way he should go, and when he is old, he won't depart from it

**Proverbs 22:15** Foolishness is bound in child's heart, but the rod of correction will drive it far from him

**Proverbs 23:13-14** Withhold not correction, punishment shall deliver him from the grave

**Proverbs 23:22** Listen to your parents

**Proverbs 23:24-25** Parents of Wise children shall have Joy

**Proverbs 29:15,17** Child left to himself brings his mother to shame

**Proverbs 30:11** A generation that curses father, doesn't barak (bless) mother

**Proverbs 30:17** Ravens shall pick out the eye that mocks its father

## **DO NOT ENVY EVIL**

**Proverbs 24:1** Don't envy evil men

## **FRIEND**

**Proverbs 17:17** A friend loves at all times, a brother is born for adversity

**Proverbs 18:24** A man that has friends must be friendly

**Proverbs 27:17** Iron sharpens iron, like a man his friend

## **FORNICATION & ADULTERY LEAD TO DEATH**

Illicit sex seems enticing, but actually is very dangerous and harmful, leading to death. Today, many young people feel they have to live together to get to know each other to decide if they want to get married. However, marriage is a commitment for life, and you do not learn commitment and faithfulness by being uncommitted and unfaithful! You don't have to get too far into the book to start to see this reflected. Intimacy outside of marriage leaves scars that time won't erase. Faithfulness in marriage also relates directly to faithfulness in all our relationships and particularly in our relationship with **יְהוָה** (Yahuah).

**Proverbs 2:16-19** A strange woman leads to death

**Proverbs 5:3-21** Lips of a strange woman are like honeycomb, but the end of dallying with her is like wormwood

**Proverbs 6:24-35** Can a man take fire into his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

**Proverbs 7:5-27** The harlot's house is the way of death

**Proverbs 22:14** Mouth of strange woman is a deep pit

**Proverbs 23:27-28** A whore is a deep ditch, lying in wait for her prey

**Proverbs 29:3** He that keeps company with harlots spends his father's substance

**Proverbs 30:20** Adulterous woman says: "I have done no wickedness."

## **AUTHORITY**

**Proverbs 29:2** When the Righteous are in authority, the people rejoice

**Proverbs 29:4** A Wise king establishes the land, but bribery overthrows it

**Proverbs 29:12** If a ruler listens to lies, all his servants are wicked

**Proverbs 29:14** If a king faithfully judges poor, his throne will be established forever

## **JOYFULNESS**

**Proverbs 15:13** A Joyful heart makes a cheerful countenance

**Proverbs 15:15** A Joyful heart has a continual feast

**Proverbs 17:22** A Joyful heart does good like medicine, a broken spirit dries the bones

## **KEEPING TURAH IS BASIS FOR WISDOM**

**Proverbs 28:7** Whosoever keeps the Turah is a Wise son

**Proverbs 28:9** Whoever turns his ear away from hearing the Turah, even his Prayer is an abomination.

**Proverbs 29:18** With no vision, the people perish; Baruk (Blessed) is he who keeps the Turah.

## **LIARS BEWARE**

**Proverbs 12:19** The lip of truth shall be established forever

**Proverbs 12:22** Lying lips are abomination to אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 19:5, 9** A false witness shall not be unpunished

**Proverbs 21:6** Getting treasures by a lying tongue is vanity

## **CONTROL ANGER**

**Proverbs 16:32** One slow to anger is better than the mighty, rule your spirit

**Proverbs 19:11** It is prudent to defer anger, a glory to pass over a transgression

**Proverbs 19:19** A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment

**Proverbs 22:24-25** Make no friendship with an angry man

## **CORRECTION IS NECESSARY**

**Proverbs 9:7-9** Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate you; rebuke a Wise man and he will love you

**Proverbs 10:17** Be in the Way of Life: keep Instruction

**Proverbs 15:10** Correction is grievous to him that forsakes the Way, he that hates reproof shall die

**Proverbs 15:31** The ear that hears the reproof of life lives among the Wise

## **NEVER GIVE UP**

**Proverbs 24:10** If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small

**Proverbs 24:16** A just man falls 7 times, and rises again

## **BARAKAH (BLESSING) OF אַיָּהוָה (YAHUAH)**

**Proverbs 10:22** The Barakah (Blessing) of אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) makes rich without sorrow

**Proverbs 11:4** Riches don't profit in the day of wrath

**Proverbs 11:25** Liberal soul shall be made fat

**Proverbs 11:28** He that trusts in his riches shall fall

**Proverbs 13:7** Some make themselves rich, but have nothing; others make themselves poor, yet have great riches

**Proverbs 13:11** Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished

**Proverbs 16:8** A little with Righteousness better than great revenues without Right

**Proverbs 17:5** Whoso mocks the poor reproaches his Maker

**Proverbs 19:4** Wealth makes many friends, but the poor is separated from his neighbor

**Proverbs 19:6-7** The poor don't have friends, everyone is a friend to him that gives gifts

**Proverbs 19:17** He that pities the poor lends to אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah), He will repay

**Proverbs 21:13** Whoso stops his ears at the cry of the poor shall cry, but not be heard

**Proverbs 22:1** A good Name is better than great riches

**Proverbs 22:7** The rich rule over the poor, borrower is servant to lender

**Proverbs 22:16** Both the oppressor of poor, and the giver to the rich, shall come to want

**Proverbs 22:22** Rob not the poor, neither oppress the afflicted

**Proverbs 23:4-5** Labor not to rich, for riches fly away like an eagle

**Proverbs 28:27** He that gives to the poor shall not lack

**Proverbs 29:7** The righteous consider the cause of the poor

**Proverbs 30:7-9** Give me neither poverty nor riches

**Proverbs 31:9** Plead for the cause of the poor and needy

**A VIRTUOUS, GOOD WIFE IS FROM יָהוּאַה (YAHUAH)**

**Proverbs 11:22** A fair woman without discretion is like a jewel in a swine's snout

**Proverbs 12:4** A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband

**Proverbs 14:1** A wise woman builds her house; a foolish one plucks it down

**Proverbs 18:22** A good wife is from יָהוּאַה (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 19:13** The contentions of a wife are like a continual [rain] dropping

**Proverbs 19:14** A prudent wife is from יָהוּאַה (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 21:9** Better to dwell in an attic, than in a big house with a brawling woman

**Proverbs 21:19** Better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and angry woman

**Proverbs 25:24** Better to live in an attic, than in a wide house with a brawling woman

**Proverbs 27:15** Unceasing raindrops and a contentious woman are alike

**Proverbs 30:19** A wonderful thing: way of a man with a maid

**Proverbs 30:23** Earth cannot bear an odious woman when she is married

**Proverbs 31:10-31** Description of a virtuous woman

**HUMILITY**

**Proverbs 11:2** Pride comes with shame, humility comes with Wisdom

**Proverbs 15:33** Before honor is humility

**Proverbs 16:18-19** Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall

**Proverbs 22:4** By humility and fear of יָהוּאַה (Yahuah) are riches, honor, and life

**Proverbs 26:12** A man Wise in his own conceit is worse than a fool

**Proverbs 29:23** Pride brings a man low; humility produces honor

**Proverbs 30:13** A generation with lofty eyes

## **GIVING**

**Proverbs 3:9-10** Honor **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) with your substance, He will Barak (Bless) you

**Proverbs 11:24** Give much, you increase; give little and you become poor

## **FOOL**

Proverbs often present a contrast between the Righteous way and the Unrighteous way, or the Wise and Fools "A wise son makes a glad father: but a foolish man despises his mother" (**Proverbs 15:20**). Sometimes, proverbs parallel similar concepts (**Proverbs 19:13**, "A foolish son is the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping.").

The two (2) major themes which are interwoven and overlapping throughout Proverbs are Wisdom and Folly. Wisdom, which includes knowledge, understanding, instruction, discretion, and obedience, is built on the fear of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) and the Word of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah). Folly is everything opposite to Wisdom.

Four (4) kinds of fools mentioned in Proverbs:

1. The simple fool (**1:4, 22; 7:7; 21:11**)
2. The hardened fool (**1:7; 10:23; 12:23; 17:10; 20:3; 27:22**)
3. The arrogant fool (**3:34; 21:24; 22:10; 29:8**)
4. The brutish fool (**17:21; 26:3; 30:22**)

When we are confronted with foolish people, we need discernment as to how and if to answer that person. Listen to the words of the Wise: Answer not a Fool according to his Folly, lest you be like him yourself. Answer a Fool according to his Folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes.

**Proverbs 1:7** Fools despise Wisdom and Instruction

**Proverbs 1:22** Fools hate Knowledge

**Proverbs 1:32** Fool's prosperity shall destroy them

**Proverbs 3:35** Shame is the promotion of fools

**Proverbs 14:7** Go from the presence of a foolish man

**Proverbs 14:9** Fools make a mock at Sin

**Proverbs 26:4-5** Answer a fool, don't answer a fool, according to his folly

**Proverbs 28:26** He that trusts in his own heart is a fool

## **CONTROL YOUR TONGUE, CONTROL YOUR LIFE**

**Proverbs 10:11** The mouth of the righteous is a well of life

**Proverbs 10:18-21** In multitude of words there is Sin

**Proverbs 10:31** Mouth of righteous brings forth Wisdom

**Proverbs 11:9** A hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor

**Proverbs 11:13** A talebearer reveals secrets

**Proverbs 12:13** The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips

**Proverbs 12:14** A man shall be satisfied with good by fruit of his mouth

**Proverbs 12:18** The tongue of Wise is health

**Proverbs 13:2-3** He that keeps his mouth, keeps his life

**Proverbs 15:1-2** A soft answer turns away wrath

**Proverbs 15:4** A wholesome tongue is a tree of life

**Proverbs 15:28** The Righteous study to answer, but the wicked mouth pours out evil

**Proverbs 16:24** Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to soul, health to bones

**Proverbs 16:27-28** An ungodly man digs up evil, his lips a burning fire; a whisperer separates friends

**Proverbs 17:27-28** Spare your words, even a fool holds his peace and is counted wise in other words, "a closed mouth gathers no flies"

**Proverbs 18:4-8** A fool's mouth is his destruction, and the words of a talebearer are as wounds

**Proverbs 18:13** It is a shame to answer a matter before you hear it

**Proverbs 18:19-21** A brother offended is harder to be won [back] than a strong city; death and life are in the tongue

**Proverbs 20:19** Meddle not with flatterers

**Proverbs 21:23** Whoso keeps his tongue, keeps his soul from troubles

**Proverbs 25:11** A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver

**Proverbs 26:20** Strife ceases when there is no talebearer

**Proverbs 26:22** A talebearer's words are like wounds

**Proverbs 26:23-28** A flattering tongue works ruin

**Proverbs 27:5** Open rebuke is better than secret love

**Proverbs 28:23** Rebuke is better than flattery

**Proverbs 29:11** The fool utters all his mind, but a wise man keeps it in until later

**Proverbs 29:20** A man hasty in words is worse than a fool

## **HONEST BUSINESS**

**Proverbs 11:1** A false balance is an abomination to **יָהוָה** (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 20:10, 23** Divers weights are an abomination to **יָהוָה** (Yahuah)

**Proverbs 20:14** The buyer degrades product to get a good deal, then boasts of his gain

## **DRUNKENNESS LEADS TO SORROW**

**Proverbs 20:1** Wine is a mocker, strong drink raging

**Proverbs 21:17** He that loves wine & oil shall not be rich

**Proverbs 23:20-21** Be not among wine bibbers or gluttons: both shall come to poverty

**Proverbs 23:29-35** Drunkenness leads to sorrow, contentions and babbling

**Proverbs 31:6-7** Give strong drink to those ready to perish

## **WORK**

**Proverbs 10:4-5** He becomes poor that deals with a slack hand, but the diligent shall be rich

**Proverbs 10:26** The sluggard is like smoke to the eyes

**Proverbs 12:11** He that tills his land shall be satisfied with bread

**Proverbs 12:24** The hand of the diligent shall bear rule, but the slothful shall be under tribute

**Proverbs 13:4** The soul of sluggard desires, and has nothing, the soul of diligent shall be made fat

**Proverbs 14:23** In all labor there is profit, but talk of lips tends to penury

**Proverbs 15:19** The way of slothful man is as a hedge of thorns

**Proverbs 19:15** An idle soul shall suffer hunger

**Proverbs 19:24** The slothful man won't work

**Proverbs 20:4** Sluggards won't plow because of winter, and shall beg in harvest

**Proverbs 20:13** Love not sleep, lest you come to poverty

**Proverbs 21:25-26** The desire of the slothful kills him, for he refuses to work

**Proverbs 22:13** A slothful man says "there is a lion without," as an excuse for not working.

**Proverbs 22:29** See a diligent man? he shall stand before kings

**Proverbs 24:30-34** Poverty comes to the slothful

**Proverbs 26:13-16** The lazy stick to their bed like a door to its hinges

**Proverbs 28:19** He that tills his land shall have plenty of bread

## **HONEY**

**Proverbs 24:13** Eat honey and honeycomb, because it is good

**Proverbs 25:16,27** Don't eat too much honey, don't boast

## **PROVERBIAL NUGGETS**

**Proverbs 25:21-22** Give your enemy food and water, heap coals of fire on his head

**Proverbs 27:21** Know the state of your flocks

**Proverbs 28:13** He that covers his Sins shall not prosper

**Proverbs 1:24-28** The terrible price for rejecting Wisdom

Solomon came to the throne with great promise, privilege and opportunity. **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah) had granted his request for understanding (**1 Kings 3:9-12; 2 Chron. 1:10-12**), and his Wisdom exceeded all others (**1 Kings 4:29-31**). However, the shocking reality is that he failed to live out the truth that he knew and even taught his son Rehoboam (**1 Kings 11:1, 4, 6; 7-11**), who subsequently rejected his father's teaching (**1 Kings 12:6-11**).

Proverbs brings us to a level of practical Righteousness (1:3), by addressing man's ethical choices, calling into question how he thinks, lives, and manages his daily life in light of divine truth. More specifically, Proverbs calls man to live as the Creator intended him to live when He made man (Psalms 90:1-2, 12).

The recurring promise of Proverbs is that generally the Wise and the Righteous who obey **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), live longer (9:11), prosper (2:20-22), experience joy (3:13-18), and the goodness of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) temporally (12:21), while fools suffer shame (3:35), and death (10:21). On the other hand, it must be remembered that this general principle is balanced by the reality that the wicked sometimes prosper (Psalms 73:3, 12), though only temporarily (Psalm 73:17-19). Job illustrates that there are occasions when the righteous wise are struck with disaster and suffering.

## HOW TO APPLY

Read it! Then live it! Proverbs contains some of the most applicable nuggets of truth in all of Scripture. This approach allows us to see very clearly how any particular proverb might be applied to any number of everyday situations we encounter, from getting out of bed in the morning to building a strong foundation in our relationships with others. Proverbs reminds us that **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) concerns Himself not just with the big, cataclysmic events of life but even those mundane, "invisible" moments in our lives as well.

Get Wisdom; get Insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the Words of my mouth. The beginning of Wisdom is this: Get Wisdom, and whatever you get, get Insight. Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. **Proverbs 4:5, 7-8**

Book of Proverbs is full of great tips and advice – and Wisdom is praised more than anything else – more than 100 times. So, let's enjoy – and learn from – Solomon's great volume of Wisdom. Proverbs deals with various aspects of the human experience and guides us in the way of Right living. The book of Proverbs also encourages us to seek after Wisdom, while also telling us where that Wisdom can be found. This Wisdom must be sought like buried treasure. It also must be viewed as a precious jewel. We must seek after it diligently and not let go of it for all our days. The truth is, true Wisdom always begins with **יְהוָה** (Yahuah). Ultimately, the book teaches that Wisdom can be found, but only by those who search for it diligently.