

Proverbs

Introduction

Organization and Authors

- Organization:
 - Verse vs verse
 - Topical
- Authors
 - Solomon (25:1; 1 Kings 4:32)
 - Agur son of Jakeh (30:1)
 - King Lemuel (31:1)

Definitions

- Proverb:
 - A wise saying
 - Sentences of ethical wisdom (Strong's)
- Wisdom:
 - Applied knowledge (*using* facts and knowledge)
 - Presents *general* truths

Solomon's Contradiction?

- **[Pro 4:7 NKJV] 7 Wisdom [is] the principal thing; [Therefore] get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.**
- **[Ecc 1:17-18 NKJV] 17 And I set my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind. 18 For in much wisdom [is] much grief, And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.**

Solomon's Contradiction?

- [Ecc 2:12-16 NKJV] 12 Then I turned myself to consider wisdom and madness and folly; For what [can] the man [do] who succeeds the king?--[Only] what he has already done. 13 Then I saw that wisdom excels folly As light excels darkness. 14 The wise man's eyes [are] in his head, But the fool walks in darkness. Yet I myself perceived That the same event happens to them all. 15 So I said in my heart, "**As it happens to the fool, It also happens to me, And why was I then more wise?**" Then I said in my heart, "**This also [is] vanity.**" 16 For **[there is] no more remembrance of the wise than of the fool forever,** Since all that now [is] will be forgotten in the days to come. **And how does a wise [man] die? As the fool!**

What Kind Of Wisdom?

(1 Cor. 1:17,19-21)

- Proverbs - Pursuit of *godly* wisdom
 - Fear God
 - Righteousness
- Ecclesiastes - Life "*under the sun*"
 - Frustration of pursuing worldly wisdom
 - Recognition of injustice and suffering
- Proverbs takes the larger perspective.

Purposes/Uses Of The Book

(Prov. 1:1-6)

- Know wisdom and instruction (v. 2)
- Perceive the words of understanding (v. 2)
- Receive instruction in wise behavior (NASB), justice, judgment and equity (v. 3)
- Give prudence to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion (v. 4)

Purposes/Uses Of The Book

(Prov. 1:1-6)

- Wise men can increase in learning (v. 5)
- Understand a proverb and an enigma, the words of the wise and their riddles (v. 6)

Outline Of The Book

- **Ch. 1-9:** A father's instructions to his son
- **Ch. 10-24:** Proverbs of Solomon
- **Ch. 25-29:** Proverbs of Solomon (copied by Hezekiah's men)
- **Ch. 30:** The words of Agur, the son of Jakeh
- **Ch. 31:** The words of King Lemuel, advice from his mother

Summary Of Chapters 1 - 9

- Fatherly advice
- Recurring themes:
 - Seek wisdom!
 - Accept instruction and reproof
 - Price of rejecting wisdom
 - Connection between wisdom, righteousness and godliness
 - Influence of others

The Beginning Of Wisdom

- The fear of the Lord (v. 7)
 - Includes genuine fear
 - Honor, respect
 - The fool has neither