

Proverbs

Introduction

What They Are	Divisions	Themes
What they are not - not promises or guaranteed outcomes - express general truth BUT there can be exceptions due to unpredictable behavior of fallen man - “mashal” = comparisons, similar, parallel - Figure of speech using comparisons to present observations or instructions - Timeless truths in the form of simple illustrations that expose a fundamental reality of life - Practical, easy to memorize, applicable to real life situation - Divine guidelines and wise observations - By studying them and applying them we contemplate the mind of God - His character, attributes, works, and blessings - Short instructions for living an effective life on earth - All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge expressed in the Proverbs, they are hidden in the life of Christ (Col 2:3)	Purpose - 1:1-7 Proverbs to Youth - 1:8-9:18 Proverbs of Solomon - 10:1-24:32 Proverbs of Solomon (Hezekiah’s men transcribed) - 25:1-29:27 Words of Agur - 30:1-33 Lemuel (Solomon) - wisdom for leaders (31:1-9) - Virtuous wife (31:10-31)	Fear of the Lord (1:7; 9:10) - viewing God with the respect that He deserves - Living our lives in light of what we know about Him - Holding Him in the highest estimation - Depending on Him with humble trust 2 kinds of fear - that God will hurt me - selfish - I will hurt Him - founded in love producing holiness of character and righteousness of conduct (Ez 6:9-10) Wisdom versus folly - wisdom - knowledge, understanding (applying the knowledge), instruction, discretion, obedience all built on the fear of the Lord - Folly = all the opposite of wisdom

Proverbs

Chapter 1	Chapter 2-3	Chapter 4-5
1-7 - purpose - to live rightly in the world 8-19 - precaution for spending time with sinners (throwing your lot in with them) - don't consent to sinners enticing you - Keep your feet from their path - Sinners set up traps for themselves - Those who gain wealth by violence - it will take the life of their possessors Wisdom Warns (20-33) - calamity and dread that will come to those who spurn wisdom - They did not choose the fear of the Lord - They will eat of the fruit of their own ways (Gal 5:16-24) - He who listens to me will live securely and be at ease from the dread of evil	Security of Wisdom - chapter 2 1-5 - Discover the knowledge of God - passionate desire of our lives 6-15 - discernment helps to steer us away for the evil ones - God speaks through the revelation of His Word (He 1:1-2; II Pe 1:20-21) - Upright - true believers (7-8) - Truth protects us (God's Word Ps 119:11; 97-104) 16-22 - stay away from the strange woman (adulteress; harlot) - irreversible nature of continuing sin (habitual sin) - Physical death (cut off, uprooted) - Spiritual death - cut off from God's kingdom Chapter 3 - Rewards of Wisdom 1-4 - rooted in sound teaching 5-6 - rest in God (trust) 7-10 - healing for those who obey 11-18 - chastening brings profound benefits to the believer 19-26 - wisdom will keep us walking securely and not stumble 27-35 - Righteous living God will bless	Father's Instructions - chapter 4 1-9 - acquire wisdom - acquire wisdom - striving - Understanding is wisdom applied to life - Adornment of your life 10-19 - stay away from the evil ones - don't enter the path of the wicked - Stay on the righteous bright path 20-27 - pay attention to my words - follow the path that God has put you on - Don't deviate Chapter 5 - Immorality 1-6 - seduction begins with deceptive flattery - Wormwood = suffering - Sword = death - She is headed for destruction - doesn't know it, doesn't care 7-14 - high price is paid for adultery - Slavery, disease, death (Dt 22:22) 15-23 - refreshment only in the marriage relationship - God watches all that we do - Gal 6:6-10; II Pe 3:9

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Chapter 6	Chapter 7	Chapter 8-9
1-5 - Surety - don't become responsible for someone else's debt - Give to people in need, lend without interest to a brother, don't be involved in usury 6-11 - warning against laziness - industrious, diligent, planning - Laziness - lack of self-control 12-15 - staying away from the evil one 16-19 - things the Lord hates - haughty eyes - Lying tongue - Shedding innocent blood - Devising wicked plans - Feet that run to evil - A false witness - Someone who spreads strife 20-35 - keep to your parents' teachings - Staying away from the adulteress	1-5 - keep your father's instructions 6-23 - woman on the prowl - looking for man lacking sense - Religious woman - seeks for an innocent life - Flirting with danger (II Tim 2:22) 24-27 - she is destructive	8:1-11 - wisdom proclaims herself from the housetop - understand prudence (thoughtful decision making) - understand wisdom - utters truth (I Cor 1:18-25) - Wisdom is all that is noble, right, true, and righteous - The most valuable thing we can have 8:12-21 - fear of the Lord is to hate evil - Wisdom hates what God hates - God puts highest virtue on humility (submission to God) - Counsel, sound wisdom, understanding, and power are wisdom 8:22-31 - Wisdom is part of God's character, God is love (I Jn 4:8), righteousness (Ro 3:21-22), faithfulness (Dt 7:9; I Pe 4:19) - His wisdom dwells in us (I Cor 1:24; Jn 1:1-3) 8:32-36 - blessed to keep the ways of wisdom - Hate wisdom = love death 9:1-6 - 7 pillars - completeness - plenty of room for everyone - Wine that is mixed - 1-8 parts - unmixed wine = strong drink 9:7-12 - don't waste your time trying to correct a fool - The wise will accept reproof and increase his learning - Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom 9:13-18 - woman of folly - foolish - adulteress - harlot - Boisterous - noisy, cheerful (overly), rowdy, energetic, unruly - associated with taverns and drunkenness - Naive - knowing nothing - having no sense

Proverbs

The Upright and the Wicked - 10-18	
Righteous	Wicked
Chapter 10 - God will care for the righteous (3) - Ps 37:16-22 - Receive commands (8) - Walking in integrity brings security (9) - Mouth is a fountain of life (11) - Love covers transgressions (I Cor 13:4-7) - Wisdom is like a sport for a man of understanding (23) - The way of the Lord is a stronghold (27-29) - Righteous will never be shaken (30)	- ill-gotten gains does not profit (2) - Sluggishness will lead to poverty (4-6) - The name of the wicked will rot (7) - The rod is for those who lack understanding (13) - The mouth of fools brings ruin (14) - James 1:26; 3:1-12; Pr 10:19 - Spreading slander (18) - Fools die for lack of understanding (21) Hos 4:6 - Laziness stings the person who sent them (26)
Chapter 11 - humbleness in our walk with God (Micah 6:8) (2) - Integrity guides them (2) - Righteousness (4-6) - doing what is right in all circumstances - Speak with knowledge - kindness (9) uplifting - Careful with words and abundance of words (12) - Trustworthy - conceal a matter (13) - Abundance of counselors (14) - Hates being a guarantor (15) - Graciousness (16) - Merciful (17) - compassion, kindness, forgiving - Sows righteousness (18-19) - Generous (25) - Seeks favor (27) - Wins souls (30)	- the wicked will be caught by their own greed (6) - Dishonesty (1) - Proud (to boil or run over) (2) - Crookedness (3) - Destroys his neighbor with his mouth (9) - Despises their neighbor (12) - Talebearer - peddler in scandal (13) - Don't seek guidance (14) - Seeking riches (16) - Cruelness (17) - Perverted and evil (20-21) - wrong, injurious, hurtful, disagreeable, displeasing - Seek evil (27) - Trusts in riches (28)

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The Upright and the Wicked - 10-18	
Righteous	Wicked
Chapter 12 - love discipline (1) - Firmly rooted (3) - Justness (5) - Great insight (8) - Cares about God's creatures (10) - Industrious - willing to work hard (11) - Listens to wise counsel (15) - Speaks truth (17) - Conceals knowledge - not quick to boast on what he knows (23)	- hates reproof (1) - Devises evil (2) - Deceitful (5) - lies - Lips cause transgressions (13) - He is right in his own eyes - justifies his sin (15) - Anger (16) - Speaks and acts rashly (18) - Love to hear themselves talk (23) - Anxiety (25)
Chapter 13 - listens to his father (1) - Guard his mouth (3) - Guard the blameless (6) - Rejoicing (9) - Works hard (11) - Desire - will to go on - walk in the ways of God (12) - Fear of the commandments (13) - Good understanding (15) - Prudent = showing care and thought about the future - acting with knowledge (16) - Bring healing (17) - Walk with wise men (20) - Disciplines his children diligently (24)	- does not listen to rebuke (1) - Treachery = guilty of betrayal or deception (2) - Subversive = undermine power and authority (6) - Pretend = not honest, pretentious (7) - Insolence = rude, arrogant, lacks respect (10) - Hopelessness (12) - Despises the word (13) - Companion of fools (20) - Injustice (23) - Withholds the rod of discipline from their children (24)

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The Upright and the Wicked - 10-18	
Righteous	Wicked
Chapter 14 - she builds her house (1) - Speak truth (3, 5) - Understanding about the ways of life (8) - Satisfaction (14) - Consider their steps (15) - Sensible (18) - Kindness and truth - devises good (22) - Labor diligently (23) - Strong confidence in the fear of the Lord (26) - Slow to anger (29) - Tranquil of heart (30) - peaceful - healthy mind (Phil 4:4-9) - Gracious to the needy (31) - Has hope in death (32)	- she tears down her house with her own hands (1) - Deviousness (2) - Lies (5) - Mock sin = ridiculing impending judgment (9) - II Peter 3:3-9 - Walks in a way that seems right to him (12) - Judges - Naive (15) - Arrogant and careless (16) - Quick tempered (17, 29) - Titus 1:5-9 - Despising your neighbor (21) - Driven by passions - rottenness in their bones (12:4) - Oppresses the poor (31)
Chapter 15 - gentle answers that bring peace (1) - Able to make knowledge acceptable (2) - Soothing tongue (4) - Spreads knowledge (7) - Joyful heart and a cheerful face (13, 15) - Gen 4:5-7 - Apt answers = appropriate, suitable for the circumstances (23) - Ponders how to answer (28) God hears the prayers of the righteous (Jn 9:31) (29)	- speaks harshly and stirs up anger (1) - Perverse tongue that crushes the spirit (4) - Worships with wrong motivation (8) - I Sam 15; Mal 2:13-17 - Forsakes the way of the Lord (10) - Jn 14:6 - Feeds on folly (14) - Lazy (19) - Profits illicitly = forbidden by law, rules, customs (27)

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The Upright and the Wicked - 10-18	
Righteous	Wicked
Chapter 16 - absolute trust in God's plans (1) - Committing our works to the Lord (3) - Keeps away from evil (6) - Ways are pleasing to the Lord (7) - Steps are directed by the Lord (9 - 1, 3) - Watches his ways = diligently looking and perceiving right from wrong (17) - Gives attention to the word (20) - Wise in heart (21) - Speaks healing to others (23-24) - Slow to anger (32) - doesn't take offense	- motives are wrong (2) - I Sam 16:7; I Cor 4:4 - Proud and haughty (18-19) - Walks in a way that he thinks is right (25) - Digs up evil (27) - Spread strife (28) - Man of violence (29) - Crafty - achieve their goal through deceptive methods (30)
Chapter 17 - heart that is tested by the Lord (3) - Excellent speech (7, 20, 27-28) - Loves at all times (17) - I John 4:7-8 - Joyful heart (22)	- strife (1, 19) - Listens to wicked lips - lies (4) - Mocks the poor and rejoices at calamity (5) - Takes bribes = persuaded by money to act in someone's favor (8, 23) - Repeats things that are private (9) - Returns evil for good (13) - Justifies wrong and condemns what is right (15) - Crooked mind - doesn't stay on the straight path (20)
Chapter 18 - run to the Lord as their strong tower (10) - Acquires knowledge (15) - Listens to both sides of the story (17) - Brings life with his tongue (21)	- Separates himself from others (1) - Only interested in revealing his mind (2) - Shows partiality to the wicked (5) - Loves to expose secrets (6-8) - Slack in his work (9) - Offensive and contentious (19)

Proverbs

Proper Conduct - 19-29		
Chapter 19	Chapter 20	Chapter 21
- better to be poor and walk in integrity (1) - Acquiring knowledge - don't be hurried - acting vs reacting (2) - Don't rage against the Lord (3) - Don't trust in wealth (4, 6, 7) - Speak truth (5, 9, 22, 28) - Seek after wisdom and understanding (8) - James 3:13-18 - Slow to anger - discrete (11, 19) - Godly wife (13, 14 - Pr 31) - Don't be lazy (15, 24) - balanced life - Be careful in conduct (16) - Godly discipline (18, 29) - Listening to counsel (20, 25) - If God wills I will do this (21) - Kindness (22) - Fear the Lord (23) - Listen to words of knowledge (27)	- stay away from alcohol (1) - Stay away from strife (3) - Live with understanding (5) - Trustworthy (6, 7, 14) - Justly (8-10, 17, 23) - Pure and right (11) - Diligence (13) - Don't be a gossip (19) - Don't be hurried in your actions (21) - Wait for the Lord (22, 24) - Allow the Lord to search our hearts and expose the evil (27) - Loyalty and truth (28)	- life should be led by God (1) - We need to do right more than we need to bring sacrifice (3) - I Sam 15 - Upright conduct (8) - Always strive to receive knowledge (11) - Need to consider the house of the wicked (12) - Be concerned for the needy (13) - Don't wander away from understanding (16) - Don't love pleasure, wine, oil (17) - There can be no wisdom, understanding or counsel without the Lord (30)

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Proper Conduct - 19-29		
Chapter 22	Chapter 23	Chapter 24
- desire a good name (1) - The prudent hides himself from evil (3) - Train our children in the way of righteousness (6) - Borrower becomes the lenders slave (7, 26-27) - Drive out the scoffer (10) - Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child (15) - Trust in the Lord (17-21) - Stay away from hot tempered men (24-25)	- 1-3 - think carefully about your actions (Daniel 1) - 4-5 - don't try to accumulate wealth - 6-8 - avoid those who are selfish and greedy - their desire is their own gain and they don't care about you - 9 - don't waste your time trying to reason with a fool - 10-12 - don't take advantage to those who are less fortunate - God will protect against you - 13-14 - importance of proper discipline for our children - 15-16 - children living what is right will bring joy to their parents - 17-21 - watch the company you keep - to spend time with drinkers and gluttons will lead to ruin - 22-23 - always be seeking truth in any matter that confronts you - 24-25 - pursue wisdom and righteousness with our lives - 26-28 - warnings of adultery - 29-35 - warnings against alcohol use	- 1-2 - evil men's minds devise violence - 3-4 - wisdom, understanding, knowledge build our lives - 5-6 - wisdom brings strength and a multitude of counselors brings victory - 7-10 - the schemer devises foolishness and the sluggards strength is limited - 11-12 - God judges the intentions of the heart and will reward accordingly - 13-14 - wisdom is like honey to the soul - your future is secure - 15-16 - the wise may stumble but they get up and continue - 17-18 - don't rejoice when your enemy falls - 19-20 - don't fret about evildoers - 21-22 - fearing the Lord is the solid foundation to life - 23-27 - need to live rightly and wisely with our time - 28-29 - live truthfully and live in trust in God - 30-34 - don't live as a sluggard or one lacking sense

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Proper Conduct - 19-29		
Chapter 25	Chapter 26	Chapter 27
Similitudes = similar Instructions 1-7 - kings position of power puts great responsibility on his shoulders (2-3) - Self-seeking, prideful men will tend to take a place of honor that is not deserved (6-7) 8-10 - it is better to peacefully resolve issues with your neighbor than to fight them for your rights 11-28 - speak a word in right circumstances (11) - Reprove those who listen (12) - Faithful messenger (13) - Don't boast (14) - Forbearance = patience (15) - soft tongue - Don't overdo (16) - Act properly in the circumstance (17-20) - Love your enemy (21-22) - No backbiting (23) - Don't give in to evil (26) - Self-controlled (27-28)	- honor is not fitting for a fool (1) - Don't be foolish (2-19) - Don't be a whisperer (gossip, meddler) (20) - Don't kindle strife (21) - Don't speak evil of others (23) - Don't store up anger and hatred in your heart - it will be made known to everyone at some point in time (24-28)	- don't boast about tomorrow (1) - Don't praise yourself (2) - Don't provoke a fool (3) - Jealousy is powerful (4) - Don't conceal your love (5) - Friendship is powerful - stand close to your brother (6-10) - A wise child is a blessing (11) - Flee from evil (12) - Words should not be flattering (14) - Iron sharpens iron - we are to sharpen each other (17) - What is in our heart is a reflection of who we are (19) - Man is not satisfied with stuff (eyes) (20) - Know well the condition of your flocks and pay attention to your herds (23)

Proverbs

Proper Conduct - 19-29		
Chapter 28	Chapter 29	Words of Agur - 30
- the righteous are bold (1) - Evil doesn't understand justice (5) - Those who seek the Lord understand all things (5) - Better to be poor and walk in integrity (6) - We need to walk in the law (9) - Blameless will inherit good (10) - Hate unjust gain (16) - Confess and forsake our sins (13) - To follow empty pursuits will have poverty in plenty (19)		