

An Introduction to a Wise Life

Proverbs Introduction

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Nearly all wisdom we possess, that is to say, true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves - John Calvin

Know God. Know yourself. Know yourself to know your need of God. Know God to know you are not gods. - Kevin DeYoung

Wisdom is the gospel of Christ reshaping us for royalty, as God places us on his anvil and we trust him enough to stay there until his work is done. – Ray Ortlund

A Wise Life is a God-centered Life

1. A Father's Invitation to Wisdom (Chapters 1-9)
 2. Proverbs of Solomon (10-22:16)
 3. The Thirty Sayings of the Wise (22:17-24:22)
 4. Further Sayings of the Wise (24:23-34)
 5. Hezekiah's Collection of Solomon's Proverbs (25-29)
 6. The Words of Agur (30)
 7. The Words of King Lemuel (31)
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Key Themes About Jesus in Proverbs

1. He Is The Good Worker
2. He Is The True Friend
3. He Is The Faithful Son
4. He Is The Wisdom of God Incarnate

What then is at stake for you and me in the book of Proverbs? Why does this book deserve our endless fascination? T. S. Eliot spoke to our times when he asked these questions:

1. Where is the life we have lost in living?
 2. Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?
 3. Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?
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We are Called to Seek Wisdom!

Proverbs 1:1–7

[1] The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:

- [2] To know wisdom and instruction,
to understand words of insight,
[3] to receive instruction in wise dealing,
in righteousness, justice, and equity;
[4] to give prudence to the simple,
knowledge and discretion to the youth—
[5] Let the wise hear and increase in learning,
and the one who understands obtain guidance,
[6] to understand a proverb and a saying,
the words of the wise and their riddles.

[7] The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and instruction. (ESV)

Proverbs 1:20–33

- [20] Wisdom cries aloud in the street,
in the markets she raises her voice;
[21] at the head of the noisy streets she cries out;
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
[22] “How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
and fools hate knowledge?
[23] If you turn at my reproof,
behold, I will pour out my spirit to you;

I will make my words known to you.
[24] Because I have called and you refused to listen,
 have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded,
[25] because you have ignored all my counsel
 and would have none of my reproof,
[26] I also will laugh at your calamity;
 I will mock when terror strikes you,
[27] when terror strikes you like a storm
 and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
 when distress and anguish come upon you.
[28] Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
 they will seek me diligently but will not find me.
[29] Because they hated knowledge
 and did not choose the fear of the LORD,
[30] would have none of my counsel
 and despised all my reproof,
[31] therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way,
 and have their fill of their own devices.
[32] For the simple are killed by their turning away,
 and the complacency of fools destroys them;
[33] but whoever listens to me will dwell secure
 and will be at ease, without dread of disaster.” (ESV)