



## Did you Get the Message?

### Proverbs 1

#### The Proverbs of Solomon the son of David

**Message:** To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment and equity. To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

- **Wisdom** is discreet counsel, thoughtfulness, to take in, or appropriate, the “discipline” which results in “prudence” or practical wisdom; so, David “behaved himself wisely” (1 Sam. 18:5).
- **Instructions** are receiving and applying knowledge
- **Understanding** is the ability to discern and comprehend the words of wisdom and insight.
- **Justice** is righteousness; the ideas of truth and beneficence as well as “justice”.
- **Judgment** is applying true righteousness; pass a right sentence upon human actions.
- **Equity** is fair and pleasing living (what is straight, so true, honest) expresses the many varying forms and phases of the one pervading principle.

**Proverbs 1:3** We are to receive the ability to learn, live moral lives, discern the right course of action, and treat others according to what they deserve.

**Real success is living a life of integrity** regardless of your financial status and that failure is living a “crooked” life regardless of your financial status.

**In Proverbs wisdom is personified as a woman** (Lady Wisdom) primarily because the Hebrew word for “wisdom” is grammatically feminine, making it natural to refer to it using feminine pronouns and imagery.

**In Proverbs 1:1-7**, we see that fearing the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and that Jesus is the wisdom of the Lord made flesh. To bring divine truth into proper focus, enabling us to look at life through God’s eyes—from His eternal, all-knowing point of view—and then live accordingly. Proverbs perform all the functions of Scripture mentioned in 2 Timothy 3:16— “it corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”

**Proverbs 3** emphasize the profound value of wisdom, understanding and righteousness, teaching us to trust in the Lord wholeheartedly, seek His guidance, and value His discipline, ultimately leading to a life of blessing and success.

**Proverbs 3:**

Relying on God’s wisdom and guidance rather than our own limited understanding and seeking His will in all aspects of life.

**Value of Wisdom Verses 13-18** highlight the incomparable value of wisdom, stating that “Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who acquires understanding, for she is more profitable than silver, and her gain is better than fine gold”.

**Divine Discipline:** Proverbs 3:11-12 speaks to God's discipline, which is presented as a sign of love and care, not punishment, encouraging us to see God's actions as a means of growth and correction.

**Integrity and Righteousness:** The chapter emphasizes the importance of living a life of integrity and righteousness, as seen in verse like 3:3, which says, "Let kindness and truth never leave your mouth, for they are the foundation of a life well-lived."

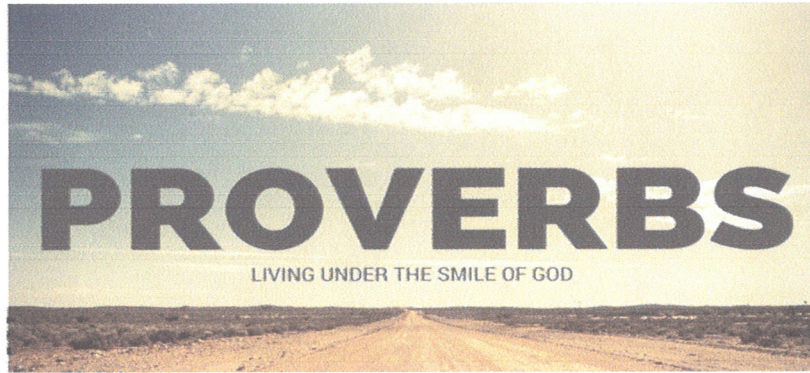
**Seeking God's Guidance:** Proverbs 3:6 instructs us to "in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight," emphasizing the importance of seeking God's guidance in every decision and acknowledging His presence in our lives.

**Avoiding the ways of the Wicked:** Proverbs 3:7-12 warns against following the ways of the wicked and encourages us to seek God's wisdom and guidance instead.

**Do Not Envy the Oppressor:** Proverbs 3:31-32 teaches us that though the way of the wicked may seem good and at times enviable, we should choose none of his ways.

**In Proverbs 10:9 (NKJV)** the Bible says, "He who walks in integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will be found out." A father blessed are his children after him. So a father who walks in integrity will bring blessing upon his kids who walk after him.

"Honesty is telling the truth to other people; Integrity is telling the truth to myself." The word integrity itself has a Latin origin. It is derived from the word "integer" and means to feel whole.



## *Proverbs 2*

***“My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandment with thee;”***

1. Incline thine ear unto wisdom and apply thine heart to understanding.
2. Cry after knowledge and lift up thy voice for understanding.
3. Seek knowledge as silver and search for her as for hidden treasures.
4. Then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.
5. The LORD gives wisdom and He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous.
6. He is a buckler (shield) to them that walk upright.
7. He keeps the paths of judgment and preserves the way of his saints.
8. Then shall thou understand righteousness and judgment and equity.
9. When wisdom enters into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee.

10. To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaks forward things who leaves the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the forwardness (depart) of the wicked. Whose ways are crooked, and they forward in their paths.
11. To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth (to divide, share, plunder, allot) with her words; which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God.
12. Her house incline unto death, and her paths unto the dead. None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.
13. Thou may walk in the way of good men and keep the paths of the righteous.
14. The upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.
15. The wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

### **Commentary**

**Proverbs chapter 2 emphasizes the pursuit of wisdom and understanding highlighting the benefits of seeking God's wisdom and the dangers of rejecting it, ultimately leading to a life of righteousness and avoiding the snares of evil. The relationship between virtue and discernment. Virtuous living is like moral living.**

**Key Themes and Insights:** The fear of the Lord leads to wisdom, and the lack of wisdom leaves one in folly or the path of foolishness. Hear the Word and apply it. 4

Believe God's Word, desire the Word and ask for wisdom. These actions will lead us to the knowledge God offers us. Success is living a life of integrity regardless of your financial status and that failure is living a "crooked" life regardless of your financial status.

- **Seeking Wisdom and understanding compares to searching for hidden treasure.**
- **God as the Source of Wisdom.** He is the ultimate source of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, promising to give it to those who seek it.
- **The Value of Virtue** is characterized by courage, integrity, wisdom and justice.
- **Avoiding Evil** warns against the dangers of associating with evil people and following their paths, emphasizing the importance of staying on the right path.
- **The Path of Righteousness** encourages walking in the way of good men and keeping to the paths of righteousness, which is the path of wisdom and understanding.
- **God's Protection** is a shield to those who walk uprightly, providing protection and guidance on their journey.
- **The Consequences of Disobedience** those who reject wisdom and choose the ways of evil will face dire consequences, including destruction and suffering.
- **The importance of Discernment** it highlights the importance of developing discernment, which is the ability to distinguish between right and wrong, good and evil.

- **The Role of Fear of the Lord** connects the fear of the Lord with the pursuit of wisdom, suggesting that a reverence for God is essential for gaining true wisdom.
- **The Power of God's Word** emphasizes the importance of heeding the word of God and applying it to one's life, as it is the source of wisdom and understanding.