

# Proverbs

66 Books in 52 Weeks

(A Book-by-Book Overview of the Bible)

## Summary & Structure

# PROVERBS

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

20

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

31

TYPE

WISDOM/POETRY



## OVERVIEW

Primarily written by Solomon, the Proverbs speaks truth about life, human nature, and consequences of righteous and wicked behavior. Unlike the Book of Psalms which was compiled chronologically, Proverbs is compiled by format and theme.



WRITTEN  
970-675 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED  
Like Psalms, Proverbs was compiled over centuries, meant to be timeless.



AUTHOR  
Solomon, with other contributors

One-page summaries of every book of the Bible can be purchased and downloaded in PDF form at this web address. <https://teachsundayschool.com/i/bibleblueprints/>

## Key Verse

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

*Proverbs 1:7*

## Wisdom Literature

Wisdom literature focuses on 'big picture' questions about God, humanity, Creation, evil and suffering, and the like.

Psalms	Proverbs
Worship	Wisdom
Speaks to our Spirit	Speaks to our Intellect
Teaches us how to be holy before God.	Teach us how to practice our holiness before people.
Teaches you to love the Lord with all your heart and soul and mind.	Teaches you to love your neighbor as yourself.

## About the Book of Proverbs

Name: Proverbs of Solomon, Book of Wisdom, Book of Proverbs, Proverbs

Authors: Solomon, Agur, King Lemuel\*

Definition: A proverb is a brief observant statement declaring a profound truth that gives wisdom for living.

Promise (Genesis 12:1-3)

Prophecy (Isaiah 7:14)

Proverb (Proverbs 3:9)

## Content of the Book of Proverbs

### Subjects and Statements

Contrastive: Uses the word 'but' (Proverbs 11:13; Proverbs 14:21)

Completive: Uses the word 'and' or 'so' (Proverbs 11:8; 11:30)

Comparative: Uses the word 'better/than' or 'like/so'  
(Proverbs 16:8; Proverbs 25:26)

### People and Problems

Proverbs 3:31; Proverbs 22:7; Proverbs 13:4; Proverbs 13:5;

Proverbs 6:16-19

### Counseling and Correction

## Outline of the Book of Proverbs

*Because of the variety of subjects covered, putting headings on each chapter can best be described as an 'imperfect art'.*

### Wisdom & Folly Contrasted (Chapters 1-9)

Proverbs 1 – Starting out Life

Proverbs 2 – Growing Up and Branching Out

Proverbs 3 – Staying Grounded as One Grows Up

Proverbs 4 – Guarding Your Heart in the 'Real World'

Proverbs 5-6 – Protecting Your Home

Proverbs 7 – More Warnings Against Adultery

Proverbs 8 – Attending the 'College of Wisdom'

Proverbs 9 – Choosing Between Wisdom and Folly

### Proverbs of Solomon, Written and Set in Order by Himself (Chapters 10-24)

Proverbs 10 – Key Words: Wise and Righteous

Proverbs 11 – Contrast Between Righteous and Wicked

Proverbs 12 – Wise Use of Speech

Proverbs 13 – Benefits of Accepting Instruction

Proverbs 14 – Avoiding the Influence of Fools

Proverbs 15 – Self Control in Speech

Proverbs 16 – Instructions About the Heart

Proverbs 17 – A Spiritual Inventory

Proverbs 18 – More Advice About Speech

Proverbs 19 – Some Comparisons and Contrasts

Proverbs 20 – Considering the Consequences of Actions

Proverbs 21 – The Providence of God

Proverbs 22 – The Importance of Character

Proverbs 22:17-24:22 – '30 Sayings of the Wise'

Proverbs 24:23-34 – Additional Words of Wisdom

Proverbs of Solomon, Set in Order by Men of Hezekiah (Chapters 25-29)

Proverbs 25 – Leaders, Neighbors and Enemies

Proverbs 26—Some People to Avoid (The Fool, The Sluggard, The Troublemaker)

Proverbs 27—Value of Friendship

Proverbs 28—Citizens and Leaders

Proverbs 29—More Wisdom for Society at Large

Oracle of Agur, Unknown Sage (Chapter 30)

Proverbs 30—Advice About Wealth, Family, and Turning from God

Sayings of King Lemuel (Chapter 31)

Proverbs 31:1-9—Warnings About Drunkenness

Proverbs 31:10-31—Wife of Noble Character

### **Applications - The Purpose of Proverbs (Proverbs 1:2-6)**

To give reverence to the \_\_\_\_\_.

To provide discernment to the \_\_\_\_\_.

To develop alertness in the \_\_\_\_\_.

To establish direction & purpose in \_\_\_\_\_.

To cultivate keenness of \_\_\_\_\_.