

*\*Are you a functional Christian?*

*Overview of Proverbs*

1. ***The goal*** *of this book is to bring wisdom to our world.*
2. ***Three people are continually warned.*** *The simple, the fool, and the scorner/mocker. Their destinies are revealed.*
3. ***The prophetic voice speaks*** *to all who love knowledge and seeks wisdom. It will bring judgement to all others.*

*Proverbs 1:1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:*

*2 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight;*

*3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair;*

*4 for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young—*

*5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance—*

*6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise.*

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

\*Why do we need wise Christians?

1. V:2 **Without insight** Christians will fall away from God. What is the path to wisdom?

\*Knowledge + Understanding = Wisdom, but only when it is applied.

1. V:3-5 **Christians who** hear the Word of God and add it to their behavior, are revealing their wisdom to others. Those who don’t will...
2. V:6-7 **Embracing all of God’s Word** enables us to know the deeper things of God. What is the true basis for wisdom? *\*Jeremiah 9:23-24 This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches,*

*24 but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.*

*\*Proverbs 1:8*  *Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching.*

*9 They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.*

*10 My son, if sinful men entice you, do not give in to them.*

*\*Learning what to embrace and what to shun is the secret of family wisdom.*

1. **Fathers and Mothers** are a tag team. Exodus 20:12 & Leviticus 19:3
2. **Where does wisdom begin?** Romans 1:19-20
3. **The enticement will come to all.** 1st Corinthians 10:13

*\*Proverb 1:20 Out in the open wisdom calls aloud, she raises her voice in the public square;*

*21 on top of the wall she cries out, at the city gate she makes her speech:*

*22 "How long will you who are simple love your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge?*

*23 Repent at my rebuke! Then I will pour out my thoughts to you, I will make known to you my teachings.*

*24 But since you refuse to listen when I call and no one pays attention when I stretch out my hand,*

*25 since you disregard all my advice and do not accept my rebuke,*

*26 I in turn will laugh when disaster strikes you; I will mock when calamity overtakes you—*

*27 when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind, when distress and trouble overwhelm you.*

*28 "Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me,*

*29 since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the LORD.*

\*A Generation that doesn’t have wisdom won’t understand rebukes.

1. ***Proverbs 1:20-21 Out in the open*** *in the public square. At the city gate, she makes her speech.*
2. ***V:22-28 Repent is not a rebuke.*** *To the simple your need is discernment, to the fool, your need is to accept instruction, to the mockers you must stop your rejection of truth and of God.*
3. ***V:29 Hating knowledge*** *that points to our Creator is the mark of a mocker. Choosing not to fear the Lord is a warning to all of us.*
4. ***Jeremiah the Prophet*** *spoke these truths!*

*\*Jeremiah 5:21 Hear this, you foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see, who have ears but do not hear:*

*22 Should you not fear me?" declares the LORD. “Should you not tremble in my presence? I made the sand a boundary for the sea, an everlasting barrier it cannot cross. The waves may roll, but they cannot prevail; they may roar, but they cannot cross it.*

*23 But these people have stubborn and rebellious hearts; they have turned aside and gone away.*

*24 They do not say to themselves, 'Let us fear the LORD our God, who gives autumn and spring rains in season, who assures us of the regular weeks of harvest.'*

*25 Your wrongdoings have kept these away; your sins have deprived you of good.*

***\*God connects fearing Him and understanding the power of boundaries as wisdom****.*