

Wise Up... Walking in Wisdom or Folly Scriptures Lesson 1

Summary Page: Proverbs Kind of Wisdom

Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, (wisdom) but fools despise wisdom and discipline."

1) "The fear of the Lord" is to have a *sense of awe* and *utter respect* for Him as the Holy One so that when He speaks, it is *the final word*. Those *who revere* God in this way *heed* His instructions and can *rightly understand their relationship to Him* and the *world He has made*.

2) "...is the beginning of knowledge, (wisdom)." The Lord has all the answers to life. He is the beginning and Source of all knowledge and the only one who understands all mysteries.

3) "...but fools despise wisdom and discipline." A carnal and self-righteous person, lying lips and spreads slander, hotheaded spurns discipline, lashes out with pride, obscene talk course joking."

Proverbs 8:13 "To fear the Lord is to hate evil; pride, arrogance, evil behavior, perverse speech."

Proverbs 1:4 "Proverbs give knowledge and discretion to the young."

Proverbs 1:3 "Acquire a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right, and just, and fair. "

Proverbs 1:5 "Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance."

Proverbs 3:6 "In all your ways acknowledge Him and your paths will be straight."

Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 2:11 "Discretion will protect you and understanding will guard you."

Proverbs 3: 13-15 "Blessed is the man or woman who gains wisdom and understanding, for it is more profitable than silver and gold, more precious than rubies, nothing you can desire can compare."

1Corinthians 1:20 "God has made foolish the wisdom of the world".

2Timothy 3:6 "Godless men will gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sin and swayed by all kinds of evil desires."

Proverbs Kind of Wisdom Lesson 1 page 1

1Kings 4:29-34

Lesson 1 page 2

Proverbs 4:7 " The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Thought it costs all you have, get understanding."

Proverbs 8:13 (**Wisdom** and all it's benefits; the ability to reign or lead, plus riches and honor and righteousness, are available to those who fear the Lord.) Solomon's experience of the rewards of wisdom was unmatched in human history (**1Kings 10:23-25**)

Lesson 1 p3

Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

Proverbs 2:3-10 Read aloud.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Lesson 1

Proverbs Kind of Wisdom

MemoryVerse : Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline."

What warning (information to help us know right from wrong) did God show us?

- 1) Fools despise _____ and discipline Proverbs 1:7 2) To _____ the Lord is to hate _____; pride, arrogance, evil behavior, perverse speech Proverbs 8:13

What instructions (actions that we should take) did God give to us?

- 1) Proverbs give _____ and discretion to the _____ Proverbs 1:4 2) Acquire a disciplined and _____ life. Proverbs 1:4 3) Let the _____ listen and let the discerning get _____ Proverbs 1:5

What benefits (the results of choosing wisdom) did God tell us about?

- 1) In all your ways acknowledge Him and your paths will be _____ Pr.3:6
2) The fear of the Lord is the _____ of _____ Pr. 1:7 3) Discretion will _____ you and understanding will _____ you Pr.2:11 4) Blessed is the man or woman who gains _____ and _____, for it is more profitable than silver and _____, more precious than _____ Proverbs 3:13-15

What are consequences (results of being a fool) for not choosing God's wisdom?

- 1) God has made _____ the wisdom of the _____. 1 Corinthians 1:18-21
2) Godless men will gain _____ over weak-willed _____, who are loaded down with _____ and swayed by all kinds of _____. 2 Timothy 3:6

Word Study:

- 1) **Comparison:** to identify how things are alike and/or different.
- 2) **Disciplined:** to train; teach self-control; sometimes to punish.
- 3) **Discretion:** good sense and judgment, have caution, wisdom.
- 4) **Insight:** to be aware, have clear or deep understanding.
- 5) **Skillful living:** able to live in a successful way in parts of your life.

Most of Proverbs was written by Solomon. Solomon is the second born son of King David and Bathsheba. When Solomon became King, God ask Solomon what he wanted. Solomon told God he wanted an understanding heart to judge His people. He wanted to know the difference between good and bad. So God gave him a "wise and understanding heart" (1Kings 3:11-14)

He collected over 3,000 proverbs. Many of these are in the Book of Proverbs. A proverb is a short saying instead of many words. The word proverb also means to *compare* or make a *comparison*. How would you compare:

an apple vs an orange _____

a child vs an adult _____

a believer vs an unbeliever _____

We too want to live with *wisdom* and understanding. The word wisdom means seeing and knowing the truth. It is seeing and knowing what to do. It is seeing the answer to the problems of life, death, good and evil, the things of God. But, there are different kinds of proverbs that suggest "wisdom".

- World's "wisdom"--"If it feels good, do it!" "The end justifies the means." "If you want it get it, you deserve it." "The one with the most toys when he dies, wins!"
- Grandmother's "wisdom"—"A watching pot never boils", "A stitch in time saves nine", "An apple a day keeps the doctor away."
- Cultural "wisdom"—
Swedish Proverb "Worry gives a small thing a big shadow"
Chinese Proverb "An inch of time is an inch of gold, but you can't buy that inch of time with an inch of gold."
Danish Proverb "The road to a friend's house is never long."
Japanese Proverb "First, the man takes a drink. Then the drink takes a drink. Then the drink takes the man."

- Proverbs kind of wisdom—comes from God alone. (Proverbs 4:7) It covers how to be successful or a failure in all our human activities. It includes business, family life, our personal relationships and living in our communities. (Proverbs 1:3) It shows us *insight given by God* so we might become skillful in our daily living. To know how to respond to daily problems based on what God knows and not what we know.

God knows what we wish we did! Proverbs are His guidelines to Biblical wisdom, (Proverbs 1:7) insight and *skillful living*.

1. What are mistakes you remember in marriage, parenting, education or job choices?
2. Why are wisdom, insight and skillful living important?
3. Name some things that cause fear in you.
4. What does it mean to “fear” the Lord?

Fear of the Lord is to honor, trust, worship and *respect* the Lord in a way that causes us to be willing to do what God says. What does Proverbs 1:7 say about fools? Proverbs are a comparison of the choices of living with wisdom or living as a fool.

Let’s read Proverbs 1:1-7. What is the purpose for the Book of Proverbs we are told in these verses?

- a) Attaining (to receive) _____
- b) Understanding words of _____
- c) Acquiring (having) a disciplined and _____ (wise) life
- d) Doing what is _____ and _____
- e) Giving _____ and discretion (judgment) to the _____

What does Proverbs 8:13 tell us about fearing the Lord? Let’s read it.

The more a woman fears the Lord, the more she hates what He hates; evil behavior, pride and arrogance. Tell what you think evil behavior is.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____



If you want to enter the house of wisdom, you must go through this door. To know true wisdom, you must know *the God of all wisdom*.

Proverbs 9:10

Knowledge is learning what God wants us to do. It is knowing what God teaches about right and wrong. Right living is choosing to obey God. The person who is foolish knows what God wants, but chooses to do the wrong thing.

Right living, skillful living, does not mean we live sinless. No one is perfect, but the person who chooses what to do that is right in the eyes of God will ask God to help them. We want success as God defines it, not the world. We will make mistakes but our history, our past, does not have to be our future *prophecy*! No matter what is behind us we can be a success. ***We are not here just to study and learn about wisdom... we're here to get this treasure from the hand of God!***

Let us not be weak willed women (2 Timothy 3:6) foolish and easy to lure in because we do not know the wisdom of God. But instead as Proverbs 3:13-15 says

Blessed is the man (or woman) who finds wisdom, the man (or woman) who gains understanding, for she (wisdom) is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. She (wisdom) is more precious than rubies; nothing you can desire can compare with her (wisdom).

What are other benefits of this Proverbs kind of wisdom? Let's read 2:3-10 and 3:5-6. The wise get wiser because God's wisdom will enter their heart.