

Old Testament Survey - **Proverbs**

Author: Solomon & others. (1:1; 10:1; 25:1 - cf. 1 Kings 4:32 - he spoke 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs - about 200 in Proverbs & Ecclesiastes). No Biblical identification of either Agur or Lemuel.

Date: 971 - c.700 (Solomon's proverbs were written by 931 B.C. and Hezekiah made his collection of them about 230 years later)

Theme: *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of Wisdom"*
Wisdom: Practical righteousness before God in every area of life.

A proverb is a succinct statement of observed general truth, a maxim

Outline:

- I. Proverbs' Purpose. (1:1-7)
- II. Proverbs of Solomon to his sons. (1:8 - ch.9)
- III. Proverbs of Solomon. (10 -24)
- IV. Proverbs of Solomon transcribed under Hezekiah. (25-29)
- V. Proverbs of Agur & Lemuel. (30-31:9)
- VI. Proverbs' Woman. (31:10-31)

Key Chapters & Verses

- 1:1-6 The Purpose of Proverbs - to know wisdom and instruction (skill & discipline)
- 1:7** - *The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom & instruction*
- 3 - The pursuit and precepts of wisdom.
- 3:3-8** Trust in the LORD and not in yourself.
- 5:15-23** A Father's warning to be satisfied with your own wife.
- 6:16-19** Seven abominations the LORD hates.
- 9:10 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy one is understanding."
- 10:18-20 Warnings on the tongue (speech) - "lying lips, slander, many words."
- 15:1 - "A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger."
- 16:18,19 - Pride before destruction, haughty vs. humble spirit.
- 19:17- He who is gracious to a poor man lends to the LORD,"
- 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise."
- 22:6 - Training a child in his "way."
- 25:21,22 Love your enemies.
- 27:17 "Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."
- 31:10-31** - The Characteristics of a Worthy Woman

Detailed Outline of Proverbs

- I. Proverbs' Purpose. (1:1-7)

- II. Proverbs of Solomon to his sons. (1:8 - ch.9)
 - A. Obey Parents 1:8-9

 - B. Avoid Sinners 1:10-19

 - C. Seek Wisdom 1:20-2:22

 - D. Wisdom's Rewards 3:1-26

 - E. Be Kind 3:27-35

 - F. A Father's Instruction 4:1-13

 - G. Avoid the Wicked 4:14-22

 - H. Guard Your Heart 4:23-27

 - I. Avoid the Adulteress 5:1-14

 - J. Be Faithful 5:15-23

 - K. Avoid Surety 6:1-5

 - L. Be Diligent 6:6-19

 - M. Avoid Adultery 6:20-7:27

 - N. Wisdom's Call 8:1-9:12

 - O. Foolish Woman 9:13-18

- III. Proverbs of Solomon. (10 - 24)
 - A. Contrasts of the Godly and the Wicked 10:1-15:33

 - B. Encouragement for Godly Living 16:1-22:16

 - C. Miscellaneous Situations 22:17-ch. 24 (Proverbs of the wise)

IV. Proverbs of Solomon transcribed under Hezekiah. (25-29)

A. Regulations for Relationships with Others 25:1-26:28

1. Relationships with Kings 25:1-7
2. Relationships with Neighbors 25:8-20
3. Relationships with Enemies 25:21-24
4. Relationships with Yourself 25:25-28
5. Relationships with Fools 26:1-12
6. Relationships with Sluggards 26:13-16
7. Relationships with Gossips 26:17-28

B. Regulations for Various Activities 27:1-29:27

V. Proverbs of Agur & Lemuel. (30-31:9)

VI. Proverbs' Woman. (31:10-31)

Valuable -10	Strong -17	Dignified -25
Trustworthy -11	Attentive -18	Wise -26
Continually Good -12	Hard Worker -19	Watchful -27
Industrious -13	Compassionate -20	Honored -28
Prudent -14	Elegant -22	Respected -29
Diligent -15	Admirable -23	Godly -30
Entrepreneurial -16	Capitalist -24	Acclaimed -31

Some Favorite & Often Used Proverbs

2, 5, 6:20-35 & 7 for young men	13:20	16:18	21:9	24:30-34
3:5-8	14:4	17:28	21:19	25:2-3
3:9-10	14:12	18:2	21:23	25:11-12
3:11-12	14:16	18:8	22:1	25:21-22
6:6-11	14:34	18:10	22:6	26:4-5
6:16-19	15:1	18:22	22:7	26:12
9:10-11	15:3	18:24	22:15	26:20-22
10:1	15:16	19:17	22:22-23	27:1
11:2	15:22	19:18	22:26-27	27:6
11:22	16:2	20:1	23:4-5	27:17
12:15	16:3	20:19	23:10-14	28:1
12:19, 22	16:9	20:29	23:17-21	29:2
13:11	16:16	21:1	23:29-35	29:5
		21:2	24:3-6	29:15
			24:17-18	29:23