

CYCLE OF LIFE (6): PROVERBS

Proverbs 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, And obtaineth favour of the LORD.

Proverbs 11:2 When pride cometh, then cometh shame: But with the lowly is wisdom.

Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: But in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Proverbs 11:17 The merciful man doeth good to his own soul: But he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh.

Proverbs 11:24 There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; And there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

Proverbs 11:25 The liberal soul shall be made fat: And he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: And whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

Proverbs 25:6 Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, And stand not in the place of great men: **Proverbs 25:7** For better it is that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; Than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince Whom thine eyes have seen. **Proverbs 25:8** Go not forth hastily to strive, Lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, When thy neighbour hath put thee to shame. **Proverbs 25:9** Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; And discover not a secret to another: **Proverbs 25:10** Lest he that heareth it put thee to shame, And thine infamy turn not away. **Proverbs 25:11** A word fitly spoken Is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. **Proverbs 25:12** As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, So is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

Proverbs 25:17 Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbour's house; Lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee.

Proverbs 25:24 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, Than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.

Proverbs 26:17 He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, Is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.

1. The Proverbs are **Proverbs!**

1 Kings 4:32 And he spake **three thousand proverbs**: and his songs were a thousand and five.

Proverbs 1:1 **THE proverbs of Solomon** the son of David, king of Israel;

Proverbs 10:1 **The proverbs of Solomon.** A wise son maketh a glad father: But a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.

Proverbs 25:1 **These are also proverbs of Solomon**, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

Definition: A short saying
That expresses a general truth
For practical, God-honoring living

To express wisdom in a memorable way and concise format.

2. The Proverbs are **not...promises!**

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. **John 10:29** My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turneth away wrath: But grievous words stir up anger.

Proverbs 16:7 **When a man's ways please the LORD**, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

John 8:29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; **for I do always those things that please him.**

Proverbs 10:4 He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: But the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

The Proverbs:

- Are Proverbs
- Not promises
- Not guarantees
- Not techniques
- Not controlling one's destiny
- But Proverbs for practical, God-honoring living!

General truths **obviously** have exceptions. **If** you don't know the exceptions then read Job & Ecclesiastes. **If** you love Proverbs you will probably hate (most of) Job & Ecclesiastes except the ending!!!

3. The Proverbs are wisdom-oriented and God-centered!

The ANE had lots of Proverbs – as has the USA. Some were quite helpful practically.

None were God-centered!

Proverbs 1:7 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge:** But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 9:10 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: And the knowledge of the holy is understanding.**

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, **the fear of the Lord**, that is wisdom; And to depart from evil is understanding.

Psalms 111:10 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:** A good understanding have all they that do his commandments: His praise endureth for ever.

Ecclesiastes 8:12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know **that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:**

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.** Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Colossians 2:3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. Colossians 2:10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

Proverbs 1:29 For that they hated knowledge, **And did not choose the fear of the LORD:**

Proverbs 2:5 **Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God.**

Proverbs 8:13 **The fear of the LORD** is to hate evil: Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, And the froward mouth, do I hate.

Proverbs 10:27 **The fear of the LORD** prolongeth days: But the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

Proverbs 14:26 **In the fear of the LORD** is strong confidence: And his children shall have a place of refuge.

Proverbs 15:16 Better is little **with the fear of the LORD** Than great treasure and trouble therewith.

Proverbs 15:33 **The fear of the LORD** is the instruction of wisdom; And before honour is humility.

Proverbs 16:6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: And by **the fear of the LORD** men depart from evil.

Proverbs 19:23 **The fear of the LORD** tendeth to life: And he that hath it shall abide satisfied; He shall not be visited with evil.

Proverbs 22:4 By humility **and the fear of the LORD** Are riches, and honour, and life.

Proverbs 23:17 Let not thine heart envy sinners: **But be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.**

[Proverbs 29:25 **The fear of man** bringeth a snare: But whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.]

Proverbs brings God into every conversation, every detail, & every corner of life!

Proverbs 11:1 A false balance is abomination to the LORD: But a just weight is his delight.

Proverbs 16:11 A just weight and balance are the LORD's: All the weights of the bag are his work.

Proverbs 20:10 Divers weights, and divers measures, Both of them are alike abomination to the LORD.

Proverbs 20:23 Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; And a false balance is not good.

Leviticus 19:35 Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Leviticus 19:36 Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: **I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.**

Leviticus 19:37 **Therefore** shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the LORD.

Deuteronomy 25:13 Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small. Deuteronomy 25:14 Thou shalt not have in thine house divers measures, a great and a small. Deuteronomy 25:15 But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have: that thy days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. Deuteronomy 25:16 For all that do such things, and all that do unrighteously, are an **abomination** unto the LORD thy God.

4. The Proverbs are obviously Hebrew / Biblical Poetry

Think lines & images.

5. The Book of Proverbs commends wisdom, provides wisdom, &...requires wisdom!

Commends wisdom:

Proverbs 4:5 Get wisdom, get understanding: Forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. **Proverbs 4:6** Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: Love her, and she shall keep thee. **Proverbs 4:7** Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: And with all thy getting get understanding. **Proverbs 4:8** Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: She shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. **Proverbs 4:9** She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: A crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

Proverbs 16:16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

Proverbs 19:8 He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: He that keepeth understanding shall find good.

Proverbs 23:23 Buy the truth, and sell it not; Also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

Provides wisdom:

Proverbs 4:11 I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

Proverbs 5:1 My son, attend unto my wisdom, And bow thine ear to my understanding:

Proverbs 1:1 THE proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; **Proverbs 1:2** To know wisdom and instruction; To perceive the words of understanding; **Proverbs 1:3** To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, and judgment, and equity; **Proverbs 1:4** To give subtilty to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion. **Proverbs 1:5** A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; And a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: **Proverbs 1:6** To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; The words of the wise, and their dark sayings. **Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Requires wisdom:

Proverbs 26:4 Answer not a fool according to his folly, **Lest thou also be like unto him.**

Proverbs 26:5 Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own conceit.

Proverbs 10:12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: But love covereth **all** sins.

Proverbs 17:9 He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; But he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.

1 Peter 4:8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: **for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.**

1-9 Proverbs of Solomon

10-22:16 More Proverbs of Solomon

22:17-24:22 Sayings of the Wise

24:23-34 These are also Sayings of the Wise

25-29 Other Proverbs of Solomon – collected later

30 The Words of Aur

31:1-9 The Words of Lemuel

31:10-31 The Ideal Woman