

4 APPROACHES TO DEBATABLE (& REALLY EVERY) ISSUES

←-----→			
Scoffer / scorner	Fool	← Simple	Simple → Wise

1. Characteristics of a Scornor / scoffer

Proverbs 9:7 He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: And he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot.

Proverbs 9:8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: Rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. **Proverbs 9:9** Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

Proverbs 13:1 A wise son heareth his father's instruction: **But a scorner heareth not rebuke.**

Proverbs 15:12 A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: Neither will he go unto the wise.

Proverbs 19:25 Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware: And reprove one that hath understanding, and he will understand knowledge.

Proverbs 21:11 When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise: And when the wise is instructed, he receiveth knowledge.

- **Cannot** be rebuked/reproved
- Will not hear rebuke
- Will not seek the wise / counsel

Why would they?

Who would be wiser???

- **Can only** be punished / corrected by God himself

2. Characteristics of a fool

Psalm 14:1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, There is none that doeth good.

Proverbs 10:8 The wise in heart will receive commandments: **But a prating fool shall fall.**

Proverbs 10:10 He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: **But a prating fool shall fall.**

Proverbs 12:15 The way of a fool **is right in his own eyes:** But he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

Proverbs 13:16 Every prudent man dealeth with knowledge: But a fool layeth open his folly.

Proverbs 14:16 A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: But **the fool rageth, and is confident.**

Proverbs 15:5 A fool **despiseth** his father's instruction: But he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

Proverbs 17:10 A reproof entereth more into a wise man **Than** an hundred stripes into a fool.

Proverbs 18:2 A fool hath **no delight** in understanding, But **that his heart may discover itself.**

Proverbs 28:26 He that **trusteth** in his own heart **is a fool:** But whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

- Talk far too much!!!
- Is always right
- Is always confident
- **Cannot** be instructed
- Almost impossible to instruct
- Not interested in knowledge / understanding / wisdom
- Only interested in them & their own opinions
- Only trust his / her own heart

3. Characteristics of the simple:

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 1:22 How long, **ye simple ones,** will ye love simplicity? And **the scornors** delight in their scorning, And **fools** hate knowledge?

Proverbs 7:7 And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, A **young man** void of understanding,

Proverbs 14:15 The **simple** believeth every word: **But** the prudent man looketh well to his going.

Proverbs 22:3 A prudent man foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself: **But the simple** pass on, and are punished.

Proverbs 27:12 A prudent man foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself; **But the simple** pass on, and are punished.

- **Lack of understanding**
- **The recipients of proverbs (the audience, the focus, the group that Proverbs is addressing)**
- **Can go either way → Towards wisdom OR towards foolishness**
- **Easily swayed**

Ephesians 4:12-16

- **Are often punished by life!**

4. Characteristics of the wise:

What DOESN'T this mean?

Proverbs 1:5 A **wise man** will hear, and will increase learning; And a **man of understanding** shall attain unto wise counsels:

Proverbs 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: Fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

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 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.

Proverbs 9:8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: **Rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.**

Proverbs 9:12 **If** thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself: But if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it.

Proverbs 10:8 The **wise in heart** will receive commandments: **But** a prating fool shall fall.

Proverbs 13:20 He that **walketh** with wise men shall be wise: **But** a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Proverbs 17:27 He that hath knowledge **spareth his words**: And a man of understanding **is of an excellent spirit.**

Proverbs 17:28 Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, **is counted wise**: And he that shutteth his lips **is esteemed a man of understanding.**

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 13:1 A wise son heareth his father's instruction: But a scorner heareth not rebuke.

Proverbs 15:20 A wise son maketh a glad father: But a foolish man despiseth his mother.

Proverbs 17:21 He that begetteth a fool doeth it to his sorrow: And the father of a fool hath no joy.

Proverbs 17:25 A foolish son is a grief to his father, And bitterness to her that bare him.

Proverbs 19:13 A foolish son is the calamity of his father: And the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping.

Proverbs 19:26 He that wasteth his father, and chaseth away his mother, Is a son that causeth shame, and bringeth reproach.

- **Do NOT think they are wise**
- **Always open to hearing**
- **Always growing / learning / applying**
- **Always open to counsel / insight**
- **Surrounded by wise men**
- **Isn't always talking but is always listening**
- **The wise bring honor to other people**