

The Usefulness of Proverbs

→ AUTHOR.

reflect on how to apply divine principles to life application

short
pithy: concise & forcefully expressive

sayings which express timeless truths & wisdom

→ Proverbs is generally elusive nature of wisdom literature itself.

→ contains both prose & poetry.

→ yet includes commands to be obeyed

¹ The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel:

→ Proverbs 1:2-6

- produce the skill of Godly living by wisdom & instruction
- develop discernment

② To know wisdom and instruction,

To discern the sayings of understanding,

③ To receive instruction in wise behavior,

→ discreet behavior
→ to govern oneself by choice

Righteousness, justice, and integrity;

→ application of God's standards in dealing with others

→ equity; living life in a fair; pleasant way

④ To give prudence to the naïve,

→ ability to conform to the will & standards of God

→ this helps us sin less & less

To the youth knowledge and discretion,

→ making a responsible choice

⑤ A wise person will hear and increase in learning,

And a person of understanding will acquire wise counsel,

⑥ To understand a proverb and a saying,

The words of the wise and their riddles.

→ learning Proverbs need reflection & understanding

→ studying Scriptures is enough to provide wisdom for life complexities

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;

Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

→ overarching theme for the first 9 chapters
→ state of mind in which one's own attitudes, will, feelings, deeds, and goals are exchanged for God's. (Psalm 42:1)

CHAPTER 1

The Enticement of Sinners

8 Listen, my son, to your father's instruction,
And do not ignore your mother's teaching;
9 For they are a graceful wreath for your head
And necklaces for your neck.

Honor and obey our parents for their wisdom and guidance. Our parents only want the best for us. Their teachings will shape us to be good & desirable.

10 My son, if sinners entice you,
Do not consent.

There are some people who are either believer or unbeliever who continuously sin and permeates even believers to sin with them.

11 If they say, "Come with us,
Let's lie in wait for blood,

PEER PRESSURE

you'll be greatly affected if you lack wisdom.

Let's ambush the innocent without cause;

12 Let's swallow them alive like

Sheol,

→ place of darkness (Psalm 143:3)
→ place of death
→ place of no return (Job 7:9)
→ place of torment (Isaiah 14:11)

Even whole, like those who go down to the pit;

13 We will find all kinds of precious wealth,

We will fill our houses with plunder;

all precious wealth many mean coming from crimes, robbery, deceiving others

14 Throw in your lot ^{...} with us;

We will all have one money bag,"

15 My son, do not walk on the way with them.

→ REJECT or FLEE from the temptation

Keep your feet from their path, ^{...} any sin.

→ refuse on any way to be associated with

16 For their feet run to evil,

And they are quick to shed blood.

17 Indeed, it is ^{...} useless to spread the baited net

* Sometimes, people will try to entice you to join them for easy money or fame or an easy life. Reject at the very onset.

In the sight of any ^{...} bird;

→ the sinners set their OWN trap for themselves; GREED entraps him and they rush to their own ruin. (1 Peter 6:9-11)

18 But they lie in wait for their own blood;

They ambush their own lives.

* Avoid taking advantage of others; never be an accomplice as well.

19 Such are the ways of everyone who makes unjust gain;

It takes away the life of its possessors.

Wisdom Warns

* Why do we reject "WISDOM" and at the same time ask for it when we think we need it?

²⁰ Wisdom shouts in the street,

She ^{...} raises her voice in the public square;

²¹ At the head of the noisy *streets* she cries out;

At the entrance of the gates in the city she declares her sayings:

²² "How long, you naive ones, will you love simplistic thinking?

And *how long* will scoffers delight themselves in scoffing

And fools hate knowledge?

→ whenever we are Naive or simple-minded
→ whenever we mock wisdom
→ whenever we stop listening to the truth

²³ Turn to my rebuke,

→ "reproof" in NASB
→ sinners who repent
→ whenever we repent, God promises the spirit or true essence of wisdom linked to divine revelation

Behold, I will pour out my spirit on you;

I will make my words known to you.

²⁴ Because ^{WISDOM} I called and ^{us; mocking wisdom; unaccepting it; responding with indifference} you refused, → Romans 2:5

I stretched out my hand and no one paid attention;

²⁵ And you neglected all my advice

And did not want my rebuke;

²⁶ I will also laugh at your disaster;

I will mock when your dread comes,

* we sometimes wait to seek God until it is too late.

* we don't often accept wisdom if we think we have everything under control. It's a HEART PROBLEM.

* we only seek wisdom from God whenever our ways have already failed.

* In small things & in big things, always seek God's wisdom.

→ we always regret things if it is TOO LATE.

CHAPTER 1

* these are severe troubles that we encounter as God's judgement

27 When your dread comes like a **storm**

And your **disaster** comes like a whirlwind,

When **distress** and **anguish** come upon you.

28 Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; *God will not respond to sinners who deliberately disobey Him*

They will seek me diligently but will not find me,

29 Because they hated knowledge

God will reject sinners; In the aspect of His wrath (Romans 1:24-28)

And did not choose the fear of the LORD.

30 They did not accept my advice,

The Bible is already written for us.

* The Lord will reject those who reject Him.

* Fools know what is right & wrong but still chooses to do wrong.

They disdainfully rejected every rebuke from me.

31 So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way,

And be filled with their **own schemes**.

WICKEDNESS

32 For the **faithlessness** of the naive will kill them,

And the **complacency** of fools will destroy them.

CARELESSNESS

33 But whoever listens to me will live securely

And will be at ease from the dread of evil."

* we always reject God's teachings & commands and yet, we wanted to be SAVED & LOVED.

* This really shows our sinful nature as humans & how much we need Jesus the most.

CHAPTER 1

The Pursuit of Wisdom Brings Security

¹ My son, if you will receive my words

And treasure my commandments within you,

→ we have to put value to WISDOM

² Make your ear attentive to wisdom,

* we have to actively listen, understand, and put every wisdom into HEART

Incline your heart to understanding;

³ For if you cry for discernment,

Lift your voice for understanding;

if we seek for answers, we also have to make sure that we trust & follow it.

⁴ If you seek her as silver

* we must never stop seeking for God's wisdom all the days of our lives (Job 28:1-28)

And search for her as for hidden treasures;

* wisdom comes only by revelation

⁵ Then you will discern the fear of the LORD

And discover the knowledge of God.

⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom;

→ Hebrews 1:1-2

→ 2 Peter 1:20-21

From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

→ God breathes the Scriptures.

⁷ He stores up sound wisdom for the upright;

→ TRUE BELIEVERS

→ ones who consistently seek, know, love, and obey God

He is a shield to those who walk in integrity,

⁸ Guarding the paths of justice,

* God's wisdom, if accepted, can shield us from temptations & worldly deceptions.

And He preserves the way of His godly ones.

* God's wisdom will serve as our PROTECTION.

⁹ Then you will discern righteousness and justice

And equity and every good course.

CHAPTER 2

¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart

And knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

¹¹ Discretion will guard you, → Truth is the protector from all evil

Understanding will watch over you,

¹² To deliver you from the way of evil,

From the man who speaks perverse things;

¹³ From those who leave the paths of uprightness

To walk in the ways of darkness;

¹⁴ Who delight in doing evil → fools usually love to do the worst in things

And rejoice in the perversity of evil;

¹⁵ Whose paths are crooked,

And who are devious in their ways;

¹⁶ To deliver you from the strange woman,

From the adulteress who flatters with her words; → smooth talker

¹⁷ That leaves the companion of her youth

And forgets the covenant of her God;

¹⁸ For her house sinks down to death

And her tracks lead to the dead;

¹⁹ None who go to her return again,

Nor do they reach the paths of life.

physical death; irreversible nature of continuing in this sin points to devastating consequences

contrary to the expected behavior/outcome

those who rejects wisdom

deliberate in showing / behaving unreasonable ways / uncooperative / disobedient

harlot condemned
Ex. 20:14; Lv. 20:10

deliberately disobeying & leaves guidance from friends & husband

both gradual descent (Pr. 5:23) & a sudden end (Pr. 29:1)

CHAPTER 2

²⁰ So you will walk in the way of good men

And keep to the paths of the righteous.

²¹ For the upright will live in the land

And the blameless will remain in it;

²² But the wicked will be cut off from the land

And the treacherous will be uprooted from it.

- * We are called to live in exact opposite of those who live in sexual sin and are headed for death.
- * Those who belong to the Lord will live.
- * Everyone will be judged and everyone will be punished if the Lord sees it fit.

The Rewards of Wisdom

¹ My son, do not forget my ^{...} teaching,

→ "Torah"

But have your heart comply with my commandments;

² For length of days and years of life

And peace they will add to you.

³ Do not let kindness and truth leave you;

→ kindness & truth must be part of our lives
Bind them around your neck,

→ shown to others; adornment

Write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴ So you will find favor and a good ^{...} reputation

In the sight of God and man. → they witness how you live your life
→ God sees everything

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart

And do not lean on your own understanding.

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him,

And He will make your paths straight.

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes;

Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.

⁸ It will be healing to your ^{...} body

And refreshment to your bones.

} God promises physical well-being to those who live according to His will.

⁹ Honor the LORD from your wealth,

And from the first of all your produce,

→ use His possessions for honoring Him

→ Trust God (v.5)

→ Give the Best (Ex. 22:29)

→ Be fair (v. 27-28)

¹⁰ Then your barns will be filled with plenty,

And your vats will overflow with new wine.

→ Give Generously (11:25)

→ Express Gratitude (Dt 6:10-12)

King Solomon instructs that wisdom is:

↳ rooted in sound teaching (v. 1-4)

↳ rests in trust in God (v. 5-6)

↳ rewards those who obey (v. 7-10)

↳ while wisdom demands chastening, it brings profound benefits (v. 13-18)

↳ its importance is clear since it undergirds God's creation (v. 19-20)

} we only perceive what we want to perceive; we sometimes twist God's wisdom to our own liking in order to be pleasing to us & not to God.

Chapter 3

11 My son, do not reject the discipline of the LORD

Or loathe His rebuke,
 ↳ we are all weak to temptation & to sin. we all need God's fatherly discipline to increase wisdom & blessing. (Heb 12:5-11)

12 For whom the LORD loves He disciplines,

Just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights.

13 Blessed is a person who finds wisdom,

And one who obtains understanding.

14 For her profit is better than the profit of silver,

And her produce better than gold.
 ↳ Divine wisdom yields the richest treasures

15 She is more precious than jewels,
 ↳ it brings a happy life, contentment, peace

And nothing you desire compares with her.

16 Long life is in her right hand;

In her left hand are riches and honor.

17 Her ways are pleasant ways,

And all her paths are peace.

Rewards of continuously seeking and obtaining Divine wisdom

18 She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her,

And happy are those who hold on to her.
 ↳ being the salt & light; gives refreshment to the soul for others

19 The LORD founded the earth by wisdom,

He established the heavens by understanding.

20 By His knowledge the ocean depths were burst open,

And the clouds drip with dew.

21 My son, see that they do not escape from your sight;

Comply with sound wisdom and discretion,

22 And they will be life to your soul

And adornment to your neck.

The wisdom of God will adorn one's life for all to see its beauty (v. 1-9)

23 Then you will walk in your way securely,

And your foot will not stumble.

24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid;

When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

25 Do not be afraid of sudden danger,

Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes;

26 For the LORD will be your confidence,

And will keep your foot from being caught.

27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,

When it is in your power to do it.

28 Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come back,

And tomorrow I will give it to you,"

When you have it with you. → help whenever you can & always be ready to help others

29 Do not devise harm against your neighbor,

While he lives securely beside you. → be trustworthy and never plot against your neighbor

30 Do not contend with a person for no reason,

If he has done you no harm. → Do not accuse a man too easily

31 Do not envy a violent person,

And do not choose any of his ways.

wicked persons with wicked ways will always bring harm to oneself

Chapter 3

- 32 For the devious are an abomination to the LORD; ^{→ cause of His anger & judgment}
- But ^{...} He is intimate with the upright. ^{→ those who live closely to His teaching}
- 33 The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked,
But He blesses the home of the righteous. ^{→ God knows everything}
^{→ He knows if we have been living in His teachings and accepting His wisdom}
- 34 Though He scoffs at the scoffers,
Yet He gives grace to the needy. ^{→ God is a just God and He never forgets His people and gives grace endlessly.}
- 35 The wise will inherit honor,
But fools ^{...} increase dishonor.

ABOMINATION

- attitude or act that is incompatible with God's nature and He cannot tolerate
- this leads to God's anger & judgment
- this is an important theme in Proverbs (V. 6:16-19)
 - wisdom is openly given to those who wholeheartedly seek them.
 - it is still our choice to obey the wisdom sought yet God has been very clear on His rewards of accepting the wisdom and punishment for disregarding it.

A Father's Instruction

→ A father would always look after his children's

¹ Listen, my sons, to the instruction of a father,

well-being
→ wisdom

And pay attention so that you may gain understanding,

² For I give you good teaching; → sound instruction

Do not abandon my instruction. → 1 Ti 1:10; 4:13; 16; 5:17; 2 Ti 3:10; 16; 4:2; Ti 1:9; 2:1; 10

³ When I was a son to my father,

Tender and the only son in the sight of my mother,

⁴ He taught me and said to me,

"Let your heart take hold of my words;

Keep my commandments and live;

⁵ Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding!

1 ACQUIRE WISDOM
2 ACQUIRE UNDERSTANDING

Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth.

⁶ Do not abandon her, and she will guard you;

Love her, and she will watch over you.

⁷ The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom;

And with all your possessions, acquire understanding.

⁸ Prize her, and she will exalt you; → the more I value wisdom, the more it will lift me up in life

She will honor you if you embrace her. → I can look

She will place on your head a garland of grace; desirable in the

She will present you with a crown of beauty." of the wisdom I carry

¹⁰ Listen, my son, and accept my sayings,

And the years of your life will be many.

4
CHAPTER 4
Proverbs

¹¹ I have instructed you in the way of wisdom;

I have led you in upright paths.

¹² When you walk, your steps will not be hampered;

And if you run, you will not stumble.

¹³ Take hold of instruction; do not let go.

Guard her, for she is your life.

never forget the acquired wisdom and never forget how it was thought to be understood.

¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked

And do not proceed in the way of evil people.

¹⁵ Avoid it, do not pass by it;

Turn away from it and pass on.

flee

¹⁶ For they cannot sleep unless they do evil;

And ^{...} they are robbed of sleep unless they make *someone* stumble.

¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness,

And drink the wine of violence.

¹⁸ But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn

That shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

¹⁹ The way of the wicked is like darkness;

They do not know over what they ^{...} stumble.

²⁰ My son, pay attention to my words;

Incline your ear to my sayings.

21 They are not to escape from your sight;

Keep them in the midst of your heart.

→ where our emotions are; our emotions normally affect the way we think, speak, and do things

22 For they are life to those who find them,

And healing to all ^{...} their body.

23 Watch over your heart with all diligence,

→ do not always allow the heart to control you 100%; be rational ♥

For from it *flow* the springs of life.

24 Rid yourself of a deceitful mouth

Do not allow yourself become

And keep devious ^{...} speech far from you.

corrupted

25 Let your eyes look directly ahead

And let your ^{...} gaze be fixed straight in front of you.

26 ^{...} Watch the path of your feet,

And all your ways will be established.

27 Do not turn to the right or to the left;

Turn your foot from evil.

* Acquiring Wisdom & Acquiring Understanding will make us aware of our surroundings including our own actions.

* We then become guided of what's right & wrong.

* We are always given a choice but we are also reminded what choice to take as our Godly counsel.

Pitfalls of Immorality

¹ My son, pay attention to my wisdom,

Incline your ear to my understanding,

² So that you may maintain discretion

And your lips may comply with knowledge.

³ For the lips of an ^{...} adulteress drip honey,

And her ^{...} speech is smoother than oil;

⁴ But in the end she is bitter as wormwood,

Sharp as a two-edged sword.

⁵ Her feet go down to death,

Her steps take hold of Sheol.

⁶ ^{...} She does not ponder the path of life;

Her ways are unstable, she does not know *it*.

⁷ Now then, *my* sons, listen to me

And do not turn away from the words of my mouth.

⁸ Keep your way far from her,

And do not go near the door of her house,

⁹ Otherwise you will give your vigor to others,

And your years to the cruel one;

do not allow
yourself be
seduced

symbol for
suffering
Deut 29:18

¹⁰ And strangers will be filled with your strength,
And your hard-earned possessions *will* go to the house of a
foreigner;

¹¹ And you will groan in the end, → I will be feeling the
guilt afterwards
When your flesh and your body are consumed;

¹² And you say, "How I hated instruction!
And my heart disdainfully rejected rebuke!

¹³ I did not listen to the voice of my teachers,
Nor incline my ear to my instructors!

¹⁴ I was almost in total ruin

In the midst of the assembly and congregation."

may lead to
public humiliation
↑

¹⁵ Drink water from your own cistern,
And fresh water from your own well. } this shows the
joy of a faithful
marriage.

¹⁶ Should your springs overflow into the street,
→ capability to procreate

Streams of water in the public squares?

¹⁷ Let them be yours alone, Do not risk having children
out of wedlock and to
different strangers
And not for strangers with you.

¹⁸ Let your fountain be blessed, → blessed by God for
your wife alone
And rejoice in the wife of your youth.

¹⁹ Like a loving doe and a graceful mountain goat,

Let her breasts satisfy you at all times;

Be ^{...} exhilarated always with her love.

from your
wife;
from a
faithful
marriage

²⁰ For why should you, my son, be exhilarated with an
adulteress,

And embrace the breasts of a foreigner?

²¹ For the ways of everyone are before the eyes of the LORD,

And He observes all his paths.

²² His own wrongdoings will trap the wicked,

And he will be held by the ropes of his sin.

²³ He will die for lack of instruction,

And in the greatness of his foolishness he will go astray.

Proverbs 5:21

God sees everything and just because of mercy and grace, He withholds immediate judgement.

This gives us enough time to rethink our actions and repent. Else, He allows our wrongful actions to be caught by others.

(Num 32:23; Ps 7:15-16; 57:6; Pr 1:17; Gal 6:7-8)

Parental Counsel

¹ My son, if you have become a **guarantor** for your neighbor,

→ foolishness to make oneself responsible for another's debt or pledging to pay if the other defaults

Or have given a handshake for a stranger,

² If you have been ensnared by the words of your mouth,

Or caught by the words of your mouth,

³ Then do this, my son, and save yourself:

Since you have come into the ^{...} hand of your neighbor,

Go, humble yourself, and be urgent with your neighbor to free

yourself.

→ we have to take control of one's own God-given resources and get out of such an intolerable arrangement immediately before coming to poverty or slavery. (Genesis 43:9; 44:32-33)

⁴ Give no sleep to your eyes,

Nor slumber to your eyelids;

⁵ Save yourself like a gazelle from *the* hunter's hand,

And like a bird from the hand of the fowler.

⁶ Go to the ant, you ^{...} lazy one,

→ a warning to the lazy

Observe its ways and be wise,

→ Ants are hardworkers and does not think of any limitations despite their size

⁷ Which, having no chief,

Officer, or ruler,

→ Ants were not given set of instructions from time to time but they just never stop from collecting food for the colony.

⁸ Prepares its food in the summer

→ Ants are never lazy.

→ we could all learn from an ant.

And gathers its provision in the harvest.

⁹ How long will you lie down, you ^{...} lazy one?

When will you arise from your sleep?

¹⁰ "A little sleep, a little slumber,
A little folding of the hands to ^{...}rest,"

*laziness may lead to
poverty. (Proverbs 10:4-5)*

¹¹ Then your poverty will come in like a ^{...}drifter,

And your need like ^{...}an armed man.

→ a scoundrel (1 Samuel 25:25; Job 34:18)

¹² A worthless person, a wicked man,

Is one who walks with a perverse mouth,

¹³ Who winks with his eyes, who ^{...}signals with his feet,

Who ^{...}points with his fingers;

¹⁴ Who, *with* perversion in his heart, continually devises evil,

Who ^{...}spreads strife. *→ sin of discord, dissent, or creating conflict intentionally*

¹⁵ Therefore his disaster will come suddenly;

Instantly he will be broken and there will be no healing. *→ iniquity can be irreversible when God judges.*

¹⁶ There are six things that the LORD hates,

Seven ^①that are an abomination ^②to Him:

¹⁷ Haughty eyes, ^③a lying tongue,

And hands that shed innocent blood, ^④

¹⁸ A heart that devises wicked plans, ^⑤

Feet that run rapidly to evil, ^⑥

¹⁹ A false witness *who* declares lies, ^⑦

And one who ^{...}spreads strife among brothers.

²⁰ My son, comply with the commandment of your father,

And do not ignore the ^{...} teaching of your mother;

²¹ Bind them continually on your heart;

Tie them around your neck.

²² When you walk, ^{...} they will guide you;

When you sleep, ^{...} they will watch over you;

And when you awake, ^{...} they will talk to you.

²³ For the commandment is a lamp and the ^{...} teaching is light;

And rebukes for discipline are the way of life

²⁴ To keep you from the evil woman,

From the smooth tongue of the foreign woman.

²⁵ Do not desire her beauty in your heart,

Nor let her capture you with her eyelids.

²⁶ For the price of a prostitute *reduces one* to a loaf of bread,

And ^{...} an adulteress hunts for a precious life.

²⁷ Can anyone take fire in his lap

And his clothes not be burned?

²⁸ Or can a person walk on hot coals

And his feet not be scorched?

²⁹ So is the one who goes in to his neighbor's wife;

Whoever touches her will not ^{...} go unpunished.

* parental counsel will never bring you harm

* it gives us the wisdom in direction, protection, and meditation

* it gives us good & true thoughts even when sleeping

→ the word of God provides wisdom to abundant & eternal life

flee from immorality,

adultery,

and other worldly desires

³⁰ People do not despise a thief if he steals

To satisfy ^{...} himself when he is hungry;

³¹ But when he is found, he must repay seven times as much;

He must give up all the property of his house.

³² One who commits adultery with a woman is lacking ^{...} sense;

He who would destroy ^{...} himself commits it.

³³ He will find wounds and disgrace,

And his shame will not be removed.

³⁴ For jealousy ^{...} enrages a man,

And he will not have compassion on the day of vengeance.

³⁵ He will not ^{...} accept any settlement,

Nor will he be ^{...} satisfied though you make *it* a large gift.

Adultery is different from being a thief. A thief can make restitution and can put his crime behind him permanently; An adulterer has no restitution as he destroys his soul. He is disgraced for life, for those who know him, and the jealous & affected family spare him no mercy.

The Lures of the Prostitute

¹ My son, keep my words

And treasure my commandments within you.

² Keep my commandments and live,

And my ^{...} teaching as the ^{...} apple of your eye.

³ Bind them on your fingers; → permanently

Write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴ Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," → who looks over you

And call understanding *your* intimate friend,

⁵ So that they may keep you from an ^{...} adulteress,

From the foreigner who flatters with her words.

⁶ For at the window of my house

I looked out through my lattice,

⁷ And I saw among the naive,

And discerned among the ^{...} youths

A young man lacking ^{...} sense,

⁸ Passing through the street near her corner;

And he walks along the way to her house, → when you forget that you need to FLEE from immorality (1 cor 6:18)

⁹ In the twilight, in the ^{...} evening, → you get easily swayed
→ do not be in the place where temptation is.

In the ^{...} middle of the night and the darkness.

¹⁰ And behold, a woman comes to meet him, → Hidden
→ concealed intentions
Dressed as a prostitute and cunning of heart.

11 She is boisterous and rebellious,

Her feet do not remain at home;

12 *She is* now in the streets, now in the public squares,

And lurks by every corner.

13 So she seizes him and kisses him,

And with a brazen face she says to him:

14 "I was due to offer peace offerings;

Today I have paid my vows.

15 Therefore I have come out to meet you,

To seek your presence diligently, and I have found you.

16 I have spread my couch with coverings,

With colored linens of Egypt.

17 I have sprinkled my bed

With myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

18 Come, let's drink our fill of love until morning;

Let's delight ourselves with caresses.

19 For my husband is not at home;

He has gone on a long journey.

20 He has taken a bag of money with him.

At the full moon he will come home."

21 With her many persuasions she entices him;

With her flattering lips she seduces him.

Law of peace offerings
(Leviticus 7:11-18)

she pretends that she had offered it and now must consume it before the day ends.
it is a hypocrisy on the law of peace offerings; just to seduce someone she had to violate God's moral law

signs of wealth (Pr. 31:22; Is 19:9; Eccl 27:7)

adultery is not true love; it is just physical gratification

The prostitute assures not getting caught because her husband will be gone for a long time.

Chapter 7

²² Suddenly he follows her

As an ox goes to the slaughter,

Or as ^{...} one walks in ankle bracelets to the discipline of a fool,

²³ Until an arrow pierces through his liver;

As a bird hurries to the snare,

So he does not know that it *will cost him* his life.

²⁴ Now therefore, *my* sons, listen to me,

And pay attention to the words of my mouth.

²⁵ Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways,

Do not stray into her paths.

²⁶ For many are the ^{...} victims she has brought to ruin, ^{not just weak men who fall but also strong men who are on the wrong place at the wrong time with the wrong thoughts for the wrong reasons.}

And numerous are all those slaughtered by her.

²⁷ Her house is the way to Sheol,

Descending to the chambers of death.

As a woman, I must flee immorality in a way that I should not be a temptation to the men. Speak, Act, and Dress Accordingly. Men are weak for women and I should not create mixed & confusing signals to them to avoid unwanted assumptions. Always Intend for Clarity.

The Commendation of Wisdom

¹ Does not wisdom call,

And understanding ^{...} raise her voice?

→ unlike adultery & stealing,
it is loud and out in the open
and even in broad daylight.

² On top of the heights beside the way,

Where the paths meet, she takes her stand;

³ Beside the gates, at the opening to the city,

At the entrance of the doors, she cries out:

⁴ "To you, people, I call,

And my voice is to ^{...} mankind.

⁵ You naive ones, understand prudence;

And, you fools, understand ^{...} wisdom!

⑥ Listen, for I will speak noble things;

Proverbs 8:6-8
Virtues of Wisdom

And the opening of my lips will reveal right things.

⑦ For my mouth will proclaim truth;

And wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

⑧ All the words of my mouth are in righteousness;

There is nothing crooked or perverted in them.

→ CLEAR

⁹ They are all straightforward to him who understands,

And right to those who find knowledge.

¹⁰ Accept my instruction and not silver,

And knowledge rather than choice gold.

} Godly wisdom
is second to
none.

¹¹ For wisdom is better than jewels;

And all desirable things cannot compare with her.

¹² "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,

And I find knowledge and discretion.

¹³ The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; → The highest virtue of wisdom is HUMILITY (Submission to God)

Pride, arrogance, the evil way,

And the perverted mouth, I hate.

¹⁴ Advice is mine and sound wisdom;

I am understanding, power is mine.

¹⁵ By me kings reign,

And rulers decree justice.

¹⁶ By me princes rule, and nobles,

All who judge rightly.

¹⁷ I love those who love me;

And those who diligently seek me will find me.

¹⁸ Riches and honor are with me,

Enduring wealth and righteousness.

¹⁹ My fruit is better than gold, even pure gold;

And my yield *better* than choice silver.

²⁰ I walk in the way of righteousness,

In the midst of the paths of justice,

²¹ To endow those who love me with wealth,

That I may fill their treasuries.

King Solomon addresses his son as future king. All leaders should do their work by God's wisdom

Seek and understand Godly Wisdom first and everything shall follow.

²² "The LORD created me at the beginning of His way,

Before His works of old.

* | Cor. 1:24-30

²³ From eternity I was established,

From the beginning, from the earliest times of the earth.

²⁴ When there were no ocean depths, I was born,

When there were no springs abounding with water.

²⁵ Before the mountains were settled,

Before the hills, I was born;

Genesis 1:9; 7:11; 8:2

→ God had put limitations & boundaries when He created the Earth.

²⁶ While He had not yet made the earth and the fields,

Nor the first dust of the world.

→ the boundaries were set forth by wisdom, setting what is right & pleasing to the Lord, Our creator.

²⁷ When He established the heavens, I was there;

When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸ When He made firm the skies above,

When the springs of the deep became fixed,

²⁹ When He set a boundary for the sea

So that the water would not violate His command,

When He marked out the foundations of the earth;

³⁰ Then I was beside Him, as a master workman;

And I was His delight daily,

Rejoicing always before Him,

³¹ Rejoicing in the world, His earth,

And having my delight in the sons of mankind.

³² “Now then, sons, listen to me,

For blessed are those who keep my ways.

³³ Listen to instruction and be wise,

And do not neglect *it*.

³⁴ Blessed is the person who listens to me,

Watching daily at my gates,

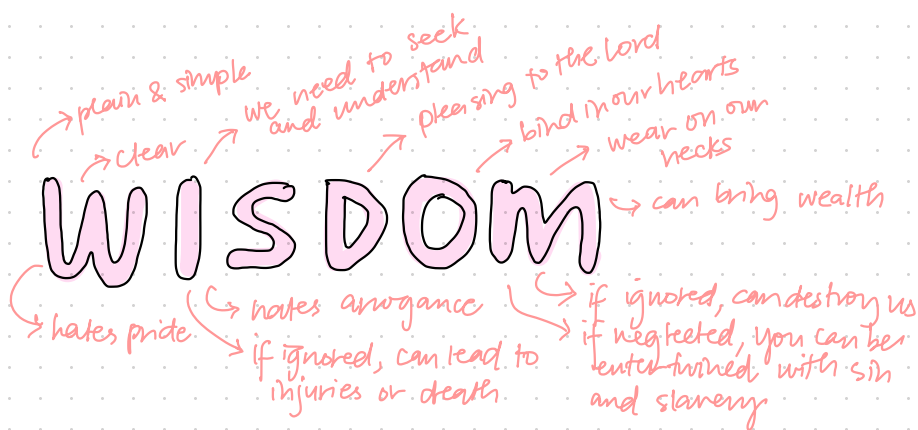
Waiting at my doorposts.

³⁵ For one who finds me finds life,

And obtains favor from the LORD.

³⁶ But one who ... sins against me injures himself;

All those who hate me love death.”



Wisdom's Invitation

¹ Wisdom has built her house,

She has carved out her seven pillars; → means it's well-built
→ sufficient house as full in size

² She has ^{...} prepared her food, she has mixed her wine; → 1:8 ratio
→ (Pro. 23:29-30)
→ (ss 8:2)

She has also set her table;

³ She has sent out her attendants, she calls out

From the tops of the heights of the city:

⁴ "Whoever is naive, let him turn in here!"

To him who lacks ^{...} understanding she says,

⁵ "Come, eat of my food

And drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶ ^{...} Abandon your foolishness and live,

And proceed in the way of understanding."

⁷ One who corrects a scoffer gets dishonor for himself, well to correction/
And one who rebukes a wicked person gets ^{...} insults for rebuke.

himself.

⁸ Do not rebuke a scoffer, or he will hate you;


Rebuke a wise person and he will love you.


⁹ Give instruction to a wise person and he will become still
wiser;

Teach a righteous person and he will increase his insight.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.


¹¹ For by me your days will be multiplied,
And years of life will be added to you.

¹² If you are wise, you are wise for yourself,
And if you scoff, you alone will  suffer from it.


¹³  A woman of foolishness is boisterous,
She has a lack of understanding and knows nothing.

¹⁴ She sits at the doorway of her house, ** How's my heart
whenever people
correct me?*
On a seat by the high places of the city,

¹⁵ Calling to those who pass by, ** Am I being like a
foolish person or
like a wise
person?*
Who are going straight on their paths:

¹⁶ "Whoever is naive, let him turn in here,"
And to him who lacks  understanding she says,

¹⁷ "Stolen water is sweet;
And bread *eaten* in secret is pleasant."

¹⁸ But he does not know that the  dead are there,
That her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

Contrast of the Righteous and the Wicked

Proverbs 10:10-15

↳ are mostly contrasts / opposites (antithetical)

Proverbs 10:16-22

↳ are mostly similarities / comparisons (syntactical)

¹ The proverbs of Solomon.

A wise son makes a father glad,

But a foolish son is a grief to his mother.

² Ill-gotten gains do not benefit, → accomplishments should be gained the right way.

But righteousness rescues from death.

³ The LORD will not allow the righteous to hunger, ↳ the Lord wants us to live righteously and seek for the eternal happiness

But He will reject the craving of the wicked.

⁴ Poor is one who works with a lazy hand, ↳ Ps. 37:16-20 you cannot achieve your goals if there's no hardwork

But the hand of the diligent makes rich.

⁵ He who gathers in summer is a son who acts wisely,

But he who sleeps in harvest is a son who acts shamefully.

↳ you reap what you sow

⁶ Blessings are on the head of the righteous,

But the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

⁷ The mentioning of the righteous is a blessing,

But the name of the wicked will rot.

⁸ The wise of heart will receive commands,

But a babbling fool will come to ruin. ↳ one who is open for instructions and corrections is wise

⁹ One who walks in integrity walks securely,

But one who perverts his ways will be found out. ENDURE!

¹⁰ He who winks the eye causes trouble,

And a babbling fool will come to ruin. ↳ there is no shortcuts in life.

¹¹ The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, ↳ you have to get through it all even if it's not easy

But the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

¹² Hatred stirs up strife,

But love covers all offenses.

→ 1 Cor. 13:4-7; 1 Peter 4:7-13

→ TRUE LOVE seeks the highest good for another

¹³ On the lips of the discerning, wisdom is found,

But a rod ^{→ corporal punishment} is for the back of him who has no ^{...} sense.

¹⁴ Wise people store up knowledge,

But with the mouth of the foolish, ruin is at hand.

¹⁵ The rich person's wealth is his ^{...} fortress,

The ruin of the poor is their poverty.

¹⁶ The ^{...} wages of the righteous is life,

The income of the wicked, punishment.

→ speak the truth and seek for the truth.

¹⁷ One who is on the path of life follows instruction,

But one who ignores a rebuke goes astray.

¹⁸ One who conceals hatred has lying lips,

And one who spreads slander is a fool.

→ we can always ask God to change our hearts towards other people

¹⁹ When there are many words, wrongdoing is unavoidable,

But one who restrains his lips is wise.

²⁰ The tongue of the righteous is like choice silver,

The heart of the wicked is worth little.

²¹ The lips of the righteous feed many,

But fools die for lack of ^{...} understanding.

→ seek wisdom from God's words

²² It is the blessing of the LORD that makes rich,

And He adds no sorrow to it.

²³ Doing wickedness is like sport to a fool,

And so is wisdom to a person of understanding.

24 What the wicked fears will come upon him,
But the desire of the righteous will be granted.

25 When the whirlwind passes, the wicked is no more,
But the righteous has an everlasting foundation.

26 Like vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes,
So is the ^{...} lazy one to those who send him.

27 The fear of the LORD prolongs ^{...} life,
But the years of the wicked will be shortened.

28 The hope of the righteous is gladness,
But the expectation of the wicked perishes.

29 The way of the LORD is a stronghold for the upright,
But ruin to the workers of injustice.

30 The righteous will never be shaken,
But the wicked will not live in the land.

31 The mouth of the righteous flows with wisdom,
But the perverted tongue will be cut out.

32 The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable,
But the mouth of the wicked, what is perverted.

- ↳ the Lord is fair and gives credit to whom the credit is due.
- ↳ He does not tolerate self-righteousness and other sins.
- ↳ We are blessed to be a blessing to others
- ↳ We are always been given a choice to allow fear or love to govern our thoughts, words & actions.

Contrast of the Upright and the Wicked

→ dishonesty

¹ A false balance is an abomination to the LORD,

But a just weight is His delight. *the Lord detest dishonesty*

² When pride comes, then comes dishonor;

But with the humble there is wisdom. *(Micah 6:8)*

³ The integrity of the upright will guide them,

But the perversity of the treacherous will destroy them.

⁴ Riches do not benefit on the day of wrath, → *no money or fame or treasure can help us on the judgement day*
But righteousness rescues from death.

⁵ The righteousness of the blameless will smooth his way,

But the wicked will fall *by his own wickedness.*

⁶ The righteousness of the upright will rescue them,

But the treacherous will be caught *by their own greed.*

⁷ When a wicked person dies, *his* expectation will perish,

And the hope of strong people perishes.

⁸ The righteous is rescued from trouble,

But the wicked  takes his place.

⁹ With *his* mouth the godless person destroys his neighbor,

But through knowledge the righteous will be rescued.

¹⁰ When things go well for the righteous, the city rejoices,

And when the wicked perish, there is joyful shouting.

¹¹ By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, *Are we good influences to the public?*
But by the mouth of the wicked, it is torn down.

Chapter 11

- 12 One who despises his neighbor lacks ^{...} sense, *↳ No one appreciates talebearers, tattletells, and rumors.*
But a person of understanding keeps silent.
- 13 One who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets,
But one who is ^{...} trustworthy conceals a matter. *↳ we deserve the truth and genuine news*
- 14 Where there is no guidance the people fall,
But in an abundance of counselors there is ^{...} victory. *↳ if we have more righteous counsellors in our lives, in the family, and in the society, then we are most likely to succeed in everything.*
- 15 One who is a guarantor for a stranger will certainly suffer
for it,
But one who hates ^{...} being a guarantor is secure.
- 16 A gracious woman attains honor,
And ruthless men attain riches.
- 17 A merciful person does ^{...} himself good,
But the cruel person ^{...} does himself harm.
- 18 A wicked person earns deceptive wages,
But one who sows righteousness gets a true reward. *Jesus and the eternal life in Heaven*
- 19 One who is steadfast in righteousness *attains* life,
But one who pursues evil *attains* his own death.
- 20 The perverse in heart are an abomination to the LORD,
But the blameless in *their* ^{...} walk are His delight.
- 21 ^{...} Be assured, the evil person will not go unpunished,
But the ^{...} descendants of the righteous will be rescued.
- 22 As a ring of gold in a pig's snout
So is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion.

23 ~~The desire of the righteous is only good,~~ *our hearts' desires must be aligned to God's.*
~~But the expectation of the wicked is wrath.~~

24 There is one who scatters, and yet increases all the more,
And there is one who withholds what is justly due, *and yet*
it results only in poverty. *no one can be less by giving more.*

25 ~~A~~ *...* ~~generous person will be~~ *...* ~~prosperous,~~
And one who gives *others* plenty of water will himself be
given plenty.

26 One who withholds grain, the people will curse him,
But blessing will be on the head of him who sells *it*.

27 One who diligently seeks good seeks favor,
But one who seeks evil, evil will come to him.

28 ~~One who trusts in his riches will fall,~~ *you must never associate yourself with money and other*
~~But the righteous will flourish like the green leaf.~~ *material things.*

29 ~~One who troubles his own house will inherit wind,~~ *material things.*
~~And the foolish will be servant to the wise-hearted.~~

30 ~~The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,~~ *our God is a just God.*
~~And one who is wise~~ *...* ~~gains souls.~~ *He never allows*

31 ~~If the righteous will be repaid on the earth,~~ *wickedness to win and*
~~How much more the wicked and the sinner!~~ *rewards the righteous.*

Chapter 11

Contrast of the Upright and the Wicked

¹ One who loves ^{...} discipline loves knowledge,

But one who hates rebuke is stupid.

² A good person will obtain favor from the LORD,

But He will condemn a person ^{...} who devises evil.

³ A person will not be established by wickedness,

But the root of the righteous will not be moved.

⁴ An ^{...} excellent wife is the crown of her husband,

But she who shames *him* is like rottenness in his bones.

⁵ The thoughts of the righteous are just,

But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful.

⁶ The words of the wicked wait in ambush for blood,

But the mouth of the upright will rescue them.

⁷ The wicked are overthrown and are no more,

But the house of the righteous will stand.

⁸ A person will be praised according to his insight,

But one of perverse ^{...} mind will be despised.

⁹ Better is one who is lightly esteemed and has a servant,

Than one who honors himself and lacks bread.

¹⁰ A righteous person has regard for the life of his animal,

But even the compassion of the wicked is cruel.

¹¹ One who works his land will have plenty of bread,

But one who pursues worthless *things* lacks ^{...} sense.

Always reminded that there is no wasted efforts in living an upright life except for the fact that there will always be people who are in complete opposite and will do their best to influence you with their wickedness.

12 The wicked person desires the ^{...}plunder of evil people,
But the root of the righteous yields *fruit*.

13 ^{...}An evil person is ensnared by the offense of his lips,
But the righteous will escape from trouble.

14 A person will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his ^{...}
words,

And the deeds of a person's hands will return to him. *Hardwork brought by honest means will always feed you and it will allow you to gain wisdom.*

15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
But a person who listens to advice is wise.

16 A fool's anger is known at once,
But a prudent person conceals dishonor.

17 One *who* declares truth tells what is right,
But a false witness, deceit.

18 There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a ^{...}
sword,

But the tongue of the wise brings healing.

19 Truthful lips will endure forever,
But a lying tongue is only for a moment.

20 Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil,
But counselors of peace *have* joy.

21 No harm happens to the righteous,
But the wicked are filled with trouble.

22 Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD,
But those who deal faithfully are His delight.

Hardwork brought by honest means will always feed you and it will allow you to gain wisdom.

In this preparation stage of getting married and becoming a wife, I am reminded that I should not get ahead of myself and always seek wisdom. It is also not bad to listen to other people who are also after my welfare in this journey.

²³ A prudent person conceals knowledge,

But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

²⁴ The hand of the diligent will rule,

But the ^{...} lazy *hand* will be put to forced labor.

²⁵ Anxiety in a person's heart weighs it down,

But a good word makes it glad.

²⁶ The righteous person is a guide to his neighbor,

But the way of the wicked leads them astray.

²⁷ ^{...} A lazy person does not ^{...} roast his prey,

But the precious possession of a person *is* diligence.

²⁸ In the way of righteousness there is life,

And in *its* pathway there is no death.

As long as I continue living an upright life,
I must trust the Lord that my life will never
be in vain. My heart will not be troubled and
it will forever seek comfort and joy from Him.

I am also reminded to be prudent by exercising
self-control in all things – the way I live, the
way I talk, and the way I think.

PROVERBS 13

God's Words

- (13:1) A wise child accepts a parent's discipline; a mocker refuses to listen to correction.
- (13:3) Those who control their tongue will have a long life; opening your mouth can ruin everything.
- (13:10) Pride leads to conflict; those who take advice are wise.

My Words

No discipline is enjoyable but I have to be mature enough to listen and understand why I have to willingly submit and accept corrections. If I could listen and seek understanding first of the correction, then I should be able to control what & how I would respond. Pride is what blocks off our minds, shut off our ears & closes our hearts. Taking advice & corrections can allow me to do a heart check & align myself to God.

I will

- ① Actively seek advice on wedding preps & about marriage from my discipless & from my elders.
- ② When corrected, listen first & seek understanding.
- ③ TRY to lessen sarcastic responses to anyone.

PROVERBS 14

Ver. 1. The wise woman builds her house,
But the foolish tears it down with
her own hands

Ver. 14. The backslider in heart will have his
fill of his own ways, But a good man
will be satisfied with his.

Ver. 23. In all labor there is profit,
But mere talk leads only to poverty

Ver. 33. Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has
understanding, But in the hearts of
fools it is made known.

↳ During this time of wedding planning,
more than the finances, I really wanted
to do a heart preparation.

↳ Learning this, I realized that I sometimes
regard myself as a wise woman however,
I am also a foolish one. Disappointing
it may seem but I need to accept the
fact that I need to improve on my
skills on the following:

- ① time management & prioritization
- ② financial management
- ③ work excellency without
hurting my personal time

↳ I know I have prayed for this marriage
and for my God's best, but now I really
have to pray for my heart as I
transition from being a single to a married
woman.

↳ A lot of differences in the transition will
surely happen & I need to face it
face on with the help of the
Holy Spirit.

↳ In handling my finances, I do feel
that sometimes I backslide in faith
due to the distractions that are
happening.

↳ I am praying to have the wisdom
to be sensitive enough to know if my
heart is about to backslide or already
backsliding.

↳ I admit that even though I say that I
depend on God's ways, however, I sometimes
still make my own ways. This is in order
to be sure that I can do things in my
own ways.

↳ I really do live my Christian life in
double-standard & I need to **STOP**.
I need to stop being lukewarm or to
stop being easily distracted to the point
of backsliding.

↳ Now that I am trying to run my own
business, while in full time work & trying
to keep my other sources of income,
I need to work harder & to stop being
lazy in working. I chose to work in
multiple ways & whenever I pray to work
excellence, it doesn't mean only to my
full time work but to **ALL OF MY CHOSEN
WORK. (including volunteer work)**

↳ Praying that God sees me worthy to become
a steward of His wealth.

↳ Psalm 14: 33 has been a reminding verse
to me ever since I started reading Proverbs.
I try to seek wisdom & yet I keep refusing
to become wise.

↳ Ultimately, I pray to have that spiritual
understanding of God's plans & ways
in my life.

PROVERBS 15

Ver 31. Whoever heeds life-giving correction will be at home among the wise

Ver 32. Those who disregard discipline despise themselves, but the one who heeds correction gains understanding

Ver 33. Wisdom's instructions is to fear the LORD, and humility comes before honor

→ These verse are timely because God knows my heart more than me and lately, my proud heart gets ahead of itself and it greatly influences my thoughts and the way I respond. I do feel the conviction of the Holy Spirit & I definitely worry not to be calloused with my sin - murders of my heart.

→ I was immensely reminded to be humble and accept constructive corrections. They are for my own good and it is a fair admission that I do not know everything & that I still have yet to learn A LOT.

→ preparing for the wedding gets my heart feel restless & yet God has been intentionally faithful to my life & reveals Himself in times I would need it the most.

→ Ask for help. Because I cannot do everything on my own.

Accept Corrections. It shows my heart & character.

Be aware while Responding.

Awareness while responding means I am not allowing myself to respond based purely on emotions, blinded by my grumbling heart. It may definitely allow me to respond wisely & in accordance to God's standard - pure, wise, and set apart.

Choose Jesus. Always. How I deal at the office shows my heart & it can either MAKE or BREAK me. I am reminded to always choose Jesus' heart above all.

→ After a resounding lesson on the importance of seeking God's wisdom & acquiring understanding from Proverbs 1-14, now, it is about aligning my heart into God's in order to live in accordance to His standards

→ With the recent events in my life right now, I must truly say that God has been actively working on my life 24/7.

→ Amazing that God is showing everything I must learn when it comes to taming, not only tongue but also taming my heart and thoughts.

→ Since January 2022, multiple novel challenges has been my struggle and there was actually a point where I was starting to get discouraged and hurt at the same time. However, I realized that my work has been like that ever since I joined & it will always be like that as long as we wanted to grow the organization with great people with us. I understand that our organization leaders must be strict and unfazed in employee discipline in order for us to survive. I know it's never easy but I trust how & why God had placed me here.

→ TO SHOW HIS GLORY DESPITE OF