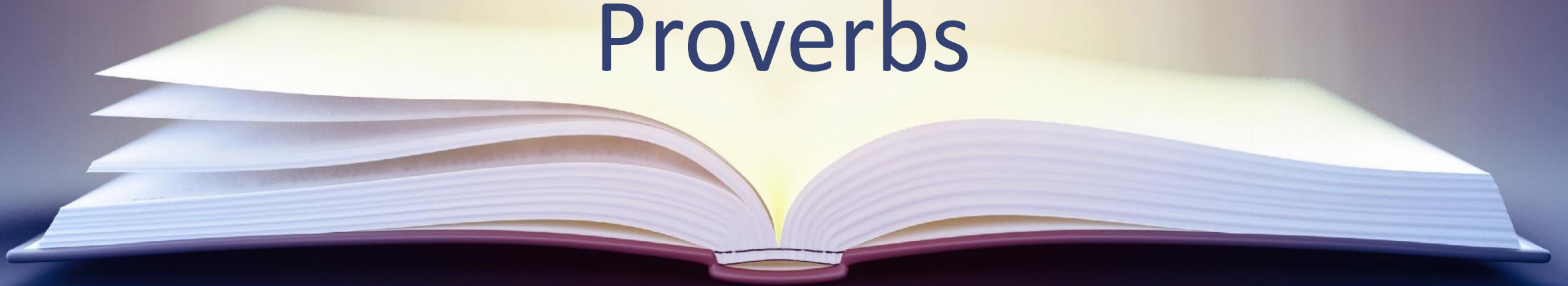


BIBLICAL

A STUDY THROUGH THE SCROLLS OF SCRIPTURE

REVIEW

Proverbs



Infection

What is an infection?

1. The invasion of bodily tissue by pathogenic microorganisms that proliferate, resulting in tissue injury that can progress to disease.
1. A harmful program passed into a computer or file.

Disease

1. **Disease** -an abnormal and harmful condition which impairs normal functioning for which something is designed, ones may be ill-equipped to survive without treatment.
1. **Malicious code** or program written to alter the way a computer operates and is designed to spread from one computer to another.

We have an adversary

“Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.” NLT

1 Peter 5:8-9

Disease or Malware= SIN

Our Adversary desires:

- Us to not function the way we are designed.
- That we not survive if that is what it takes to prevent us from functioning as designed.
- That we spread dysfunction to others.

We have our weak flesh

“Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.” ESV

James 1:13-15

We have the most powerful resource

“ No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it..” ESV

1 Corinthians 10:13

We have an adversary BUT ALSO an Advocate

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places..” ESV

Ephesians 6:10-12

We have a weapon

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account..” ESV

Hebrews 4:12-13

Proverbs and All the Bible

Preventative, Maintenance, Remedy

Choices for Healthy and Skillful Living

- Physical
- Spiritual

Proverbs Key Word = Wisdom

How do we live a godly life in an ungodly world?

Describes detailed instructions of how to interact with:

Proverbs Key Word = Wisdom

How do we live a godly life in an ungodly world?

Describes detailed instructions of how to interact with:

- *God
- *Parents
- *Children
- *Neighbors
- *Government

Authorship

Solomon has asked for Wisdom from its source!

Solomon asked God, ‘...Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil’

1 Kings 3:5-9

Authorship

God gave Solomon what he asked for:

‘And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all other men...’

1 Kings 4:29-31

Authorship

Those seeking knowledge sought Solomon:

‘And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.’

1 Kings 4:34

‘And the whole earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put into his mind.’

1 Kings 10:24

Proverbs 1:1-3

“The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:

To know wisdom and instruction,
to understand words of insight,

to receive instruction in wise dealing,
in righteousness, justice, and equity;

Proverbs 1:4-6

to give prudence to the simple,
knowledge and discretion to the youth—

Let the wise hear and increase in learning,
and the one who understands obtain guidance,

to understand a proverb and a saying,
the words of the wise and their riddles.

Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and instruction.” ESV

Wisdom and Instruction

- Wisdom (*Hokhmah*) means 'skill'
- Instruction (*Musar*) means 'discipline'
- No skill is perfected without discipline
- When one is skilled, he can create something of beauty
- If God is giving us Wisdom and Instruction, He must want us to create lives and things of beauty.

Format

Types of proverbs in the book of Proverbs:

Written by Solomon.

His name appears in the three sections he authored.

Chapter 1 (for chapters 1-9)

Chapter 10 (for chapters 10-22)

Chapter 25 (for chapters 25-29)

Collected and edited by Solomon

Ecclesiastes 12:9

‘he pondered and sought out and set in order many proverbs”

Format

2nd Collection of Solomonic proverbs

Assembled by King Hezekiah's scribes (Chapters 25-29)

Hezekiah also wanted to his subjects to grow in wisdom.

Words of Agur and King Lemuel

Collection of other unknown sages (Chapters 30-31)

Of particular note is Chapter 31 (Expressing a very high view of the roles, capabilities, and qualities of wise women.)

Structure

Topics:

- Commendation of Wisdom (1-1:7)
- Counsel of Wisdom (1:8-29:27)
 - Obey parents, avoid bad company, be kind, avoid wicked, keep your heart, do not commit adultery, be faithful, avoid surety, don't be lazy
- Comparisons of Wisdom (30:1-31:31)

Structure

Literature structure:

- Single statement expressing a fact:
 - When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him (16:7)
- Comparisons
 - As cold water to a weary soul, So is good news from a far country (25:25)
- Two clause comparisons ('But')
 - The memory of the righteous is blessed, But the name of the wicked will rot. (10:7)
- Two clause (repetition of same thought with different words)
 - For a harlot is a deep pit, And a seductress is a narrow well (23:27)
- Acrostic
 - Memory tool using Hebrew alphabet

Proverbs

Preventative, Maintenance, Remedy

Choices for Healthy and Skillful Living

- Physical
- Spiritual

Principles NOT Promises.

Principles not Promises

Action points:

Embrace Proverbs in your life and share their impact with others.

Don't fall into works mentality

- inaccurate expectations could lead to:
 - Disappointment
 - Confusion
 - Anger
- Complete adherence does not guarantee anticipated results

Examples of possible stumbling blocks

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 3:1-2 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

Proverbs 14:23 All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

Honoring God–Biblical Characters who did this

Honoring God is the Goal!

Not always a 100% success rate of following all of God's principles, but examples nonetheless:

- Abraham
- Joseph
- Job
- Disciples

They had Encounters with God

They received Blessings of Fellowship with God.

Are there any Promises in Proverbs?

God is omnipresent-

Proverbs 15:3 The Lord is watching everywhere, keeping his eye on both the evil and the good.

God is omniscient-

Proverbs 16:2 People may be pure in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their motives.

God is trustworthy-

Proverbs 29:25 Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but to trust the Lord means safety.

What are some things Jesus says about Wisdom?

“And so you will bear testimony to me. But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict.” NIV

Luke 21:13-15

What are some ways God provided Wisdom?

“So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith. Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. Opposition arose....But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.” NIV

Acts 6:5-10

Why incorporate proverbs into our lives?

- Wisdom= 'skill'
 - Instruction= 'discipline'
 - No skill is perfected without discipline
-
- When one is skilled, he can create something of beauty.
 - Let's be ready to create something of beauty with God.

How do we incorporate proverbs into our lives?

- Verse for the day of the numeric day of the week
- Topical Chart
- Outline
- Set to music
- Index card memory verses
- Break out group inspired methods

Communion

Paul wrote, “For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” NIV

1 Corinthians 11:23-24