Introduction

Welcome, Opening prayer, and Introduction.

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About 1000 BC, Solomon became king of Israel. We don’t know how old he was, but he thought he was young and inexperienced. Early in his reign, God came to him in a dream and asked him what he wanted. Solomon asked for wisdom and knowledge, so he could be a good judge over God’s people.

1 Kings 3:11 records that God gave him more wisdom than anyone who lived before or after him. He also gave him more wealth and honor than any other king at his time. We can learn some of the wisdom God shared with Solomon by studying the book of Proverbs.

Counsel

Should I consider advice?

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

Proverbs 12:15

Instruction

Why should my parents teach me?

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6
Trust in the LORD

How can I fulfill God’s plan for my life?

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:5–6

Friends

Does it matter what kind of friends I have?

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

What We Say

Why should I be careful what I say?

Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles. Proverbs 21:23

Calming Anger

How should I answer someone who is mad at me?

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

David Delays His Anger

Should I get mad when someone does something that hurts me?

The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression. Proverbs 19:11

Consequence of Evil Actions

What will happen to me if I try to harm others?

Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him. Proverbs 26:27

Don’t Gloat

Should I gloat when something bad happens to my enemies?

Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him. Proverbs 24:17–18

What God Sees

Does the Lord see what I am doing?

The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. Proverbs 15:3

Things God Hates

What are seven things the Lord hates?

These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren. Proverbs 6:16–19
Pride

What will happen if I think more of myself than I ought? What will happen if I don’t?

Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.

Proverbs 18:12

Procrastination

Something needs to be done. What happens if I wait until later to do it?

I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down. Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.

Proverbs 24:30-32

Loans

Should I co-sign a loan for a friend?

Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

Proverbs 22:26-27

Real Beauty

Even if I feel awkward and ugly, am I still important?

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

Proverbs 31:30

Discord

Is it important whom I choose to marry, and how I will treat my spouse?

It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.

Proverbs 21:19

Flattery

Should I listen to those who flatter?

For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.

Proverbs 5:3-5

Fashion and Worldly Pleasures

What will happen to me if I love gambling, fashion, expensive things, or other worldly pleasures?

He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.

Proverbs 21:17

Alcohol and Drugs
Is it wise to drink alcohol?
Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.
Proverbs 20:1

Alcohol and Drugs: Prodigal Son in Rags

My friends invited me to a wild party. Where will that lead me?
For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.
Proverbs 23:21

Alcohol and Drugs: Drunk Drivers

What problems do people have who drink alcohol or use other drugs?
Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.
Proverbs 23:29–30

Alcohol and Drugs

Is it okay to look at alcohol or other drugs?
Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.
Proverbs 23:31–32

Health

What can help me feel better?
A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.
Proverbs 17:22

Generous Widow

If I have only a little, should I still give to the poor?
He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.
Proverbs 19:17

Wealth

How can I have enduring wealth?
Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.
Proverbs 3:9–10

Picture Sources


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