

*For the LORD gives
wisdom, and from his
mouth come knowledge
and understanding.*

- Proverbs 2:6 -



Structure of the Book of Proverbs

Proverbs 1-9 - Solomon's instructions to his son

Proverbs 10-31 - proverbs, wise sayings, words

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10:1 - "The proverbs of Solomon"

22:17 - "The words of the wise"

24:23 - "These also are sayings of the wise"

25:1 - "These also are proverbs of Solomon which the men of Hezekiah, king of Judah, transcribed"

30:1 - "The words of Agur"

31:1 - "The words of King Lemuel"

Proverbs Outline

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|---|------------------|
| I. Contrast Between Good and Evil | Proverbs 1-9 |
| II. Work, Anger, Pride, Folly, Wealth, Speech | Various Proverbs |
| III. Words of Agur | Proverbs 30 |
| IV. Words of King Lemuel - The Excellent Wife | Proverbs 31 |

Proverbs Theme Statement

Proverbs 1:7 - “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
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Proverbs 9:10 - ¹⁰The **fear of the LORD** is the beginning of **wisdom**, And
the **knowledge** of the Holy One is **understanding**.

Proverbs 15:33 - ³³The **fear of the LORD** is the instruction for **wisdom**,

Psalms 111:10 - ¹⁰The **fear of the LORD** is the beginning of **wisdom**; A
good **understanding** have all those who do His commandments;

Job 28:12 - ¹²“But where can **wisdom** be found? And where is the place
of **understanding**?”

Job 28:28 - ²⁸“And to man He said, ‘Behold, the **fear of the Lord**, that is
wisdom; And to depart from evil is **understanding**.’ ”

Fear of the LORD

Knowledge

Understanding

Wisdom

Isaiah 6:5 - ⁵Then I said, “Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”

MacArthur - “To the Hebrew mind, wisdom was not knowledge alone, but the skill of living a godly life as God intended man to live.”

Proverbs 2 Structure

Development of the son's character

1 - "My son, if you...."

2

3

4

5 - "Then you...."

6

7

8

9 - "Then you...."

10

11

Deliverance of the son from evil

12 - "To deliver you...."

13

14

15

16 - "To deliver you...."

17

18

19

20 - "So you...."

21

22

Development of the son's character Proverbs 2:1-11

1a. My son, IF YOU will accept my words - v. 1

1b. IF YOU lean your heart to understanding and wisdom - v. 2

1c. IF YOU cry out for discernment and understanding - v. 3

1d. IF YOU aggressively seek out wisdom like you would for a hidden treasure - v. 4

1 Kings 3:7–9 - ⁷“Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸“Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted. ⁹“So give Your servant an **understanding** heart to judge Your people to **discern** between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?”

Development of the son's character Proverbs 2:1-11

2a. THEN YOU will discover the foundation of wisdom - the fear of the LORD and the knowledge of God - v. 5

2b. THEN YOU will receive from the LORD wisdom, knowledge and understanding - v. 6

2c. Sound wisdom and knowledge serve as a shield for godly living - v. 7-8

One commentator wrote: "God's protection is not a reward extraneous to the knowledge, but rather a consequence intrinsic to it.....As the son stores up and treasures wisdom to know piety and ethics, so also God stores up as a hidden treasure the protection inherent in that knowledge. God and life are inseparable."

Development of the son's character Proverbs 2:1-11

3a. THEN YOU will be able to discern the right choices for godly living
BECAUSE divine wisdom will be internalized in your heart - v. 9-10

3b. God uses His wisdom implanted within us to guard us from sin and
to watch over us - v. 11

Waltke writes: "There is no tension between the LORD protecting saints and the saints' characters guarding them against evil. As the wisdom of God became incarnate in the teacher's words, so God's protection becomes effective through the son's formed character."

Deliverance of the son from evil
Proverbs 2:12-22

- 1a. TO DELIVER YOU from the evil way - v. 12a
- 1b. TO DELIVER YOU from seductive speech - v. 12b
- 1c. TO DELIVER YOU from those who abandon the truth - v. 13
- 1d. TO DELIVER YOU from those who delight in their wickedness - v. 14
- 1e. TO DELIVER YOU from those who are deviously sinful - v. 15

Deliverance of the son from evil
Proverbs 2:12-22

2. TO DELIVER YOU from the adulterous woman and immorality -
v. 16-19

3a. SO YOU will live godly lives before the LORD - v. 20

3b. SO YOU will live under the blessings of the LORD - v. 21

3c. BUT the wicked will be removed from God's blessing - v. 22

Application

1. Acquire Wisdom - Proverbs 4:5, 7

Proverbs 4:5 - ⁵Acquire **wisdom**! Acquire **understanding**! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth.

Proverbs 4:7 - ⁷“The beginning of **wisdom** is: Acquire **wisdom**; And with all your acquiring, get **understanding**.”

2. Evaluate your pursuit of wisdom - Proverbs 2:1-6

Hearing → Accepting → Inclining Heart → Crying Out → Pursuing

Application

Fear of the LORD

Knowledge

Understanding

Wisdom

