

Lessons in Proverbs -- Skill in Living

Proverbs 1 – Key Ideas

Read the whole chapter aloud.

1:1

Who wrote Proverbs? Who was Solomon? David?

1:2-6

The purpose of Proverbs – wisdom -- skill in living

Name another activity in life that requires skill.

How is that skill acquired?

1:7

Where does skill in living begin?

1:8-9

To whom does Solomon write?

Why does Solomon write?

1:10-19

Why is it important to have the right friends?

What do your friends have to do with wisdom?

1:20-27

Why does wisdom call out?

What happens to the person who does not learn skill in living? (vss. 24-27)

What is a rebuke?

What does this say to the one who says, “No one tells me what to do?”

1:28-33

What happens to the person who waits too long to call for wisdom?

Law: What does this chapter say to us about God's holy law?

In light of Proverbs 1 how have you broken God's law?

Where does the law drive us? Romans 5:20a

Gospel: What does the gospel say to one who has broken God's law?

Romans 5:20b

²⁰ **Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound.**

But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, (Rom. 5:20 NKJ)

Can a person who has committed many sins be clean?

⁷ **But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

⁸ **If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.**

⁹ **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

¹⁰ **If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us (1 Jn. 1:7-10 NKJ)**

^{NKJ} **Proverbs 1:1**

The proverbs of Solomon the son of David,
king of Israel:
² To know wisdom and instruction,
To perceive the words of understanding,
³ To receive the instruction of wisdom,
Justice, judgment, and equity;
⁴ To give prudence to the simple,
To the young man knowledge and discretion--
⁵ A wise *man* will hear and increase learning,
And a man of understanding will attain wise
counsel,
⁶ To understand a proverb and an enigma,
The words of the wise and their riddles.
⁷ The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of
knowledge,
But fools despise wisdom and instruction.
⁸ My son, hear the instruction of your father,
And do not forsake the law of your mother;
⁹ For they *will be* a graceful ornament on
your head,
And chains about your neck.
¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice you,
Do not consent.
¹¹ If they say, "Come with us,
Let us lie in wait to *shed* blood;
Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without
cause;
¹² Let us swallow them alive like Sheol,
And whole, like those who go down to the
Pit;
¹³ We shall find all *kinds* of precious
possessions, We shall fill our houses with
spoil;
¹⁴ Cast in your lot among us,
Let us all have one purse"--
¹⁵ My son, do not walk in the way with them,
Keep your foot from their path;
¹⁶ For their feet run to evil,
And they make haste to shed blood.
¹⁷ Surely, in vain the net is spread
In the sight of any bird;
¹⁸ But they lie in wait for their *own* blood,
They lurk secretly for their *own* lives.
¹⁹ So *are* the ways of everyone who is greedy
for gain;

^{NAS} **Proverbs 1:1**

The proverbs of Solomon the son of David,
king of Israel:
² To know wisdom and instruction,
To discern the sayings of understanding,
³ To receive instruction in wise behavior,
Righteousness, justice and equity;
⁴ To give prudence to the naive,
To the youth knowledge and discretion,
⁵ A wise man will hear and increase in
learning, And a man of understanding will
acquire wise counsel,
⁶ To understand a proverb and a figure,
The words of the wise and their riddles.
⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
knowledge;
Fools despise wisdom and instruction.
⁸ Hear, my son, your father's instruction,
And do not forsake your mother's teaching;
⁹ Indeed, they are a graceful wreath to your
head, And ornaments about your neck.
¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice you,
Do not consent.
¹¹ If they say, "Come with us,
Let us lie in wait for blood,
Let us ambush the innocent without cause;
¹² Let us swallow them alive like Sheol,
Even whole, as those who go down to the pit;
¹³ We shall find all *kinds* of precious wealth,
We shall fill our houses with spoil;
¹⁴ Throw in your lot with us,
We shall all have one purse,"
¹⁵ My son, do not walk in the way with them.
Keep your feet from their path,
¹⁶ For their feet run to evil,
And they hasten to shed blood.
¹⁷ Indeed, it is useless to spread the net
In the eyes of any bird;
¹⁸ But they lie in wait for their own blood;
They ambush their own lives.
¹⁹ So are the ways of everyone who gains by
violence;

It takes away the life of its owners.

²⁰ Wisdom calls aloud outside;
She raises her voice in the open squares.

²¹ She cries out in the chief concourses,
At the openings of the gates in the city
She speaks her words:

²² "How long, you simple ones, will you love
simplicity?

For scorners delight in their scorning,
And fools hate knowledge.

²³ Turn at my rebuke;
Surely I will pour out my spirit on you;
I will make my words known to you.

²⁴ Because I have called and you refused,
I have stretched out my hand and no one
regarded,

²⁵ Because you disdained all my counsel,
And would have none of my rebuke,

²⁶ I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when your terror comes,

²⁷ When your terror comes like a storm,
And your destruction comes like a whirlwind,
When distress and anguish come upon you.

²⁸ "Then they will call on me, but I will not
answer;
They will seek me diligently, but they will not
find me.

²⁹ Because they hated knowledge
And did not choose the fear of the LORD,

³⁰ They would have none of my counsel
And despised my every rebuke.

³¹ Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their
own way,
And be filled to the full with their own
fancies.

³² For the turning away of the simple will slay
them,
And the complacency of fools will destroy
them;

³³ But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,
And will be secure, without fear of evil."
(Prov. 1:1-33 NKJ)

It takes away the life of its possessors.

²⁰ Wisdom shouts in the street,
She lifts her voice in the square;

²¹ At the head of the noisy *streets* she cries
out; At the entrance of the gates in the city,
she utters her sayings:

²² "How long, O naive ones, will you love
simplicity?

And scoffers delight themselves in scoffing,
And fools hate knowledge?

²³ "Turn to my reproof,
Behold, I will pour out my spirit on you;
I will make my words known to you.

²⁴ "Because I called, and you refused;
I stretched out my hand, and no one paid
attention;

²⁵ And you neglected all my counsel,
And did not want my reproof;

²⁶ I will even laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when your dread comes,

²⁷ When your dread comes like a storm,
And your calamity comes on like a whirlwind,
When distress *and* anguish come on you.

²⁸ "Then they will call on me, but I will not
answer;
They will seek me diligently, but they shall not
find me,

²⁹ Because they hated knowledge,
And did not choose the fear of the LORD.

³⁰ "They would not accept my counsel,
They spurned all my reproof.

³¹ "So they shall eat of the fruit of their own
way,
And be satiated with their own devices.

³² "For the waywardness of the naive shall kill
them,
And the complacency of fools shall destroy
them.

³³ "But he who listens to me shall live
securely,
And shall be at ease from the dread of evil."
(Prov. 1:1-2:1 NAS)