

Insights From Proverbs

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Insights From Proverbs

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Introduction

One of the ways I've been studying the Word of God is by making a list of everything that each book of the Bible teaches. This has resulted in more than a thousand pages of material. Although it's interesting and I've learned a lot from writing it, that's a lot of bullet points to read through!

The purpose of this book is to extract the most interesting insights from that massive list. This isn't intended to summarize each book of the Bible because that's what my "Chapter Summary of the Bible" is for. It's also not intended to list the major points of each book because you're probably already familiar with them. Finally, it's not intended to offer in-depth commentary because that's what my regular commentary is for. This book is simply a collection of points that I found interesting.

I hope there's some material here that you find edifying.

Jon Cooper
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Proverbs

- One of the purposes of this book is to teach people how to recognize wisdom, and tell it apart from foolishness (Proverbs 1:2)
- Wisdom is something that can be learned (Proverbs 1:2).
- Discernment is something that can be learned (Proverbs 1:2).
- It's possible to educate the simple minded (Proverbs 1:4).
- *Proverbs need to be interpreted.* There's a skill to their interpretation (Proverbs 1:6).
- The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge (Proverbs 1:7).
- Fools despise wisdom (Proverbs 1:7).
- Fools despise instruction (Proverbs 1:7).
- You must not join the wicked, even though they may entice you to do so (Proverbs 1:10).
- You must not join with those who shed innocent blood (Proverbs 1:16).
- Those who murder others for gain are sacrificing their own lives as well. In the end they'll lose their lives and face God's judgment (Proverbs 1:18).
- Those who are greedy for gain will lose their lives (Proverbs 1:19).
- Wisdom isn't silent or hidden. Instead it's publicly available (Proverbs 1:20). The text depicts wisdom as a woman who's crying out in the streets, begging people to listen. Wisdom *wants* to be heard.

- It's foolish for the simple minded to love being simple minded (Proverbs 1:22).
- God doesn't hate wisdom (Proverbs 1:22).
- God doesn't hate knowledge (Proverbs 1:22).
- Those who love being simple minded are fools (Proverbs 1:22). That doesn't honor God.
- Those who hate knowledge are fools (Proverbs 1:22). That doesn't honor God.
- Wisdom isn't reserved for the elite. Instead it cries out in the public square and urges everyone to listen (Proverbs 1:23).
- There's a spirit of wisdom that can be imparted to people, which can make them wise (Proverbs 1:23).
- Those who reject wisdom shouldn't expect any sympathy when they make unwise choices that leads to disaster (Proverbs 1:24-29).
- When fools reject wisdom, their fears will come upon them (Proverbs 1:26).
- Foolishness leads to destruction (Proverbs 1:27).
- Foolishness leads to anguish (Proverbs 1:27).
- There's a time when it's too late to seek wisdom (Proverbs 1:28).
- Those who don't fear the Lord are fools (Proverbs 1:29).
- Those who hate knowledge, or who don't fear the Lord, won't be able to find wisdom in the day of their destruction. It will be too late (Proverbs 1:29).

- When the simple minded turn away from the path of righteousness, they will end up losing their lives (Proverbs 1:32)
- Fools are destroyed by prosperity. A fool who becomes rich will destroy himself (Proverbs 1:32).
- Being simple minded is dangerous. In fact, it's life threatening (Proverbs 1:32).
- Foolish can lead to suffering and death (Proverbs 1:32).
- You should diligently pursue knowledge (Proverbs 2:3)
- You should diligently pursue understanding (Proverbs 2:3).
- The fear of the Lord is a very valuable thing (Proverbs 2:5).
- The knowledge of God is a very valuable thing (Proverbs 2:5).
- If you diligently pursue wisdom, as one would pursue precious metals, then God will give you wisdom. The Lord gives wisdom to those who earnestly seek it and diligently pursue it (Proverbs 2:1-6).
- The Lord is the source of wisdom (Proverbs 2:6). That means wisdom comes from Him. He's the one who gives us knowledge and understanding.
- God lays up sound wisdom for the righteous (Proverbs 2:7).
- God is a shield to those who walk uprightly (Proverbs 2:7).
- You should develop a love for wisdom (Proverbs 2:10).

- You should develop a love for knowledge (Proverbs 2:10).
- Discretion and understanding can keep you away from the wicked (Proverbs 2:11-12).
- You should avoid the wicked, and those who speak evil things (Proverbs 2:12).
- It's very bad to rejoice in doing evil (Proverbs 2:12-14).
- It's bad to be a difficult person to deal with (Proverbs 2:12-15).
- It's bad to become involved with an immoral woman, because she leads to death (Proverbs 2:16-18).
- One day all of the wicked will be removed from the earth, and they will never return (Proverbs 2:22).
- You must not forget God's commandments (Proverbs 3:1).
- Obeying God's commandments will lengthen our life (Proverbs 3:2).
- Obeying God's commandments will bring peace to our life (Proverbs 3:2).
- If you want to find favor with God then pursue mercy and truth (Proverbs 3:3-4).
- You must trust in the Lord with all our heart (Proverbs 3:5).
- You must trust God instead of ourselves (Proverbs 3:5).
- If you trust in the Lord with all our heart, and if you acknowledge Him in all of our ways, then God will direct your path (Proverbs 3:5-6).

- You must depart from evil (Proverbs 3:7).
- Fearing the Lord brings health (Proverbs 3:8).
- God has the ability to bless us and give us abundance (Proverbs 3:9-10).
- There are times when God blesses obedience with an abundance of wine (Proverbs 3:9-10).
- The Lord corrects those He loves (Proverbs 3:12).
- Wisdom and understanding are more precious than any material thing you could desire (Proverbs 3:13-15).
- Wisdom and understanding lengthens a person's life (Proverbs 3:16).
- Wisdom and understanding brings riches (Proverbs 3:16).
- Wisdom and understanding brings honor (Proverbs 3:16).
- The way of wisdom is pleasant (Proverbs 3:17).
- The paths of wisdom are paths of peace (Proverbs 3:17).
- The Lord used wisdom and knowledge to create the universe (Proverbs 3:19-20).
- It's possible to lose wisdom (Proverbs 3:21).
- Wisdom brings life to the soul (Proverbs 3:21-22).
- Wisdom helps people lie down in peace, without fear, and get restful sleep (Proverbs 3:24).
- The antidote to fear is wisdom (Proverbs 3:24).
- You must not be afraid of "sudden fear" (Proverbs 3:25-26). This is a reference to some terrible disaster that comes out of nowhere and causes widespread

destruction. Instead of being afraid, you must trust in the Lord and have confidence in Him.

- If you owe someone something and you have the power to give it to them, you shouldn't withhold it from them (Proverbs 3:27).
- If you can pay a bill then you should do so immediately. You shouldn't turn people away and make them wait (not even for a single day) (Proverbs 3:28).
- It's wrong to envy oppressors, or copy any of their ways (Proverbs 3:31).
- People who are difficult and troublesome are an abomination to the Lord (Proverbs 3:32).
- The secret of the Lord is with the righteous (Proverbs 3:32).
- The house of the wicked is cursed (Proverbs 3:33).
- The blessing of the Lord rests on the house of the just (Proverbs 3:33).
- God scorns those who scorn Him (Proverbs 3:34).
- God gives grace to those who humble themselves before Him (Proverbs 3:34).
- The wise will inherit glory (Proverbs 3:35).
- Fools will inherit shame (Proverbs 3:35).
- David taught Solomon to keep God's commandments (Proverbs 4:1-4).
- You must do everything we can possibly do to obtain wisdom and understanding (Proverbs 4:7).

- If you seek to be honored then seek after wisdom (Proverbs 4:8).
- If you seek glory then seek after wisdom (Proverbs 4:9).
- The Bible doesn't say you should seek temptation. Instead it says you must go out of our way to avoid temptation (Proverbs 4:15).
- Some wicked people can't sleep at night until they've done something evil (Proverbs 4:16).
- The path of the just shines ever brighter until it reaches the perfect day (Proverbs 4:18).
- When the wicked stumble, they don't know what happened because they're in darkness (Proverbs 4:19).
- You must diligently guard your heart (Proverbs 4:23).
- It's wrong to have a perverse mouth (Proverbs 4:24).
- You must remove yourself from evil (Proverbs 4:27).
- Sexual immorality seems attractive, but it's both unwise and deadly (Proverbs 5:1-5). Those who give in to sexual temptation will find bitterness and death.
- You must not hate reproof (Proverbs 5:12).
- Be satisfied with your wife, instead of pursuing other women (Proverbs 5:15-19).
- The Lord is watching us (Proverbs 5:21). Nothing is hidden from Him.
- The Lord ponders our actions (Proverbs 5:21).
- The wicked will be defeated by their own wickedness (Proverbs 5:22).

- Don't *ever* take responsibility for another person's debts (Proverbs 6:1-5).
- When you make a foolish promise and find yourself in a bad situation, you must take responsibility for it. The solution isn't to pray that God would do a miracle so you don't have to face the consequences of your actions (Proverbs 6:1-5).
- If you're in debt, you must not rest until you've paid it (Proverbs 6:4-5). Solomon compared a person who was in debt to a bird that was caught by a hunter who wants to kill it.
- You must not be lazy (Proverbs 6:6).
- You shouldn't need an overseer to force you to work. Instead you should do whatever needs to be done without someone forcing us to do it (Proverbs 6:7).
- A sluggard is someone who only works if someone forces him to work (Proverbs 6:6-9).
- It's good to work (Proverbs 6:6-9)
- You must not sleep your life away (Proverbs 6:10-11). Sleeping can make your life more difficult.
- A wicked person uses his body language for wickedness. His eyes, feet, and fingers are all saying something evil (Proverbs 6:13).
- The heart of a wicked person is full of evil (Proverbs 6:14).
- Disaster may come upon the wicked very suddenly, without warning (Proverbs 6:15).
- God hates pride (Proverbs 6:17).

- God hates lies (Proverbs 6:17).
- God hates the shedding of innocent blood (Proverbs 6:17).
- The act of creating evil plans is a sin (Proverbs 6:18). The sin begins before the plans are carried out.
- The text doesn't say that God hates lies. Instead it says that God hates the liar (Proverbs 6:16, 19).
- The text doesn't say that God hates discord. Instead it says that God hates the person who sows discord (Proverbs 6:16, 19).
- Flattery is dangerous. It can lure people to their destruction (Proverbs 6:24).
- Sexual immorality leads to poverty (Proverbs 6:26).
- Solomon compared sexual immorality to playing with fire. Those who engage in it will harm themselves and get burned (Proverbs 6:27-29).
- Those who steal food are a thief, even if they do it because they're starving. Their hunger doesn't justify their actions (Proverbs 6:30-31). This means having a desperate need for something doesn't justify stealing it.
- Theft should be punished through restitution, not prison (Proverbs 6:31).
- Those who commit adultery are worse than thieves (Proverbs 6:30-33).
- Those who commit adultery destroy their own soul (Proverbs 6:32).
- The reproach of those who commit adultery won't be

wiped away (Proverbs 6:33).

- God's commandments should be hidden in our heart (Proverbs 7:3).
- Clothing can be used as a weapon to tempt people to sin (Proverbs 7:10).
- Being foolish or simple minded can kill you (Proverbs 7:7, 23).
- You must seek to avoid sexual temptation (Proverbs 7:25).
- Wickedness is an abomination to wisdom (Proverbs 8:7). There's no wisdom in wickedness.
- All words of wisdom are words of righteousness (Proverbs 8:8).
- Any words that are perverse aren't words of wisdom (Proverbs 8:8).
- Knowledge is better than gold (Proverbs 8:10).
- It's wise to be prudent (Proverbs 8:12).
- To fear the Lord means to hate evil (Proverbs 8:13).
- Wisdom is an essential part of reigning over a nation (Proverbs 8:15).
- Wisdom is an essential part of justice (Proverbs 8:15).
- If you want wisdom then you must seek it (Proverbs 8:17).
- Wisdom produces righteousness (Proverbs 8:18).
- The Lord possessed wisdom before He created the world (Proverbs 8:22).

- God is the one who made the earth (Proverbs 8:26).
- God used wisdom to create the universe (Proverbs 8:27).
- When God created the universe, He delighted in wisdom each day (Proverbs 8:30).
- Those who seek wisdom daily are blessed (Proverbs 8:34).
- Those who wait for wisdom are blessed (Proverbs 8:34).
- All those who hate wisdom love death (Proverbs 8:36).
- The house of wisdom has seven pillars (Proverbs 9:1).
- It's bad to reprove scorners (Proverbs 9:7). Those who reprove scorners will receive shame.
- If you rebuke a wise man then he will love you (Proverbs 9:8).
- The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10).
- Knowledge of God is the beginning of understanding (Proverbs 9:10).
- Foolishness is competing with wisdom for attention (Proverbs 9:13-18).
- Foolishness leads to death (Proverbs 9:18).
- Foolishness leads to hell (Proverbs 9:18).
- Mothers are filled with sorrow when their children are foolish (Proverbs 10:1).
- Righteousness is better than the riches of the wicked, because righteousness delivers from death (Proverbs 10:2).

- The Lord protects the soul of the righteous and won't allow it to starve (Proverbs 10:3).
- The Lord casts away the wealth of the wicked (Proverbs 10:3).
- It's shameful to ignore the harvest and sleep through it (Proverbs 10:5).
- Laziness brings shame (Proverbs 10:5).
- God blesses the memory of the just (Proverbs 10:7).
- The memory of the wicked will rot (Proverbs 10:7). As time goes on, people will come to despise the wicked.
- Love is better than hatred, because love covers sin while hatred stirs things up (Proverbs 10:12).
- It's good to store up knowledge (Proverbs 10:14).
- The wealth of the rich gives them security (Proverbs 10:15).
- The poverty of the poor makes them vulnerable (Proverbs 10:15).
- Instruction and reproofs are valuable (Proverbs 10:17).
- Those who hide their hatred with lies are a fool (Proverbs 10:18).
- Those who slander others are a fool (Proverbs 10:18).
- Those who talk a great deal will commit sin (Proverbs 10:19).
- Those who remain silent are wise (Proverbs 10:19).
- The words of the righteous feed many people (Proverbs 10:21).

- The fear of the wicked will come upon them (Proverbs 10:24).
- The desire of the righteous will be granted (Proverbs 10:24).
- The wicked come, and are gone. They are here for a time and then pass away (Proverbs 10:25).
- Those who are lazy bring suffering to others. Solomon compared them to exposing teeth to vinegar, or getting smoke in your eyes (Proverbs 10:26).
- In the end the righteous will find joy (Proverbs 10:28).
- Obedience to God brings strength (Proverbs 10:29).
- In the end, all of the wicked will be destroyed. Not a single one will remain in the entire world (Proverbs 10:30).
- Fraud is an abomination to the Lord (Proverbs 11:1).
- Pride brings shame (Proverbs 11:2).
- Transgressors are destroyed by their perversion (Proverbs 11:3).
- Riches can't save you in the day of God's wrath (Proverbs 11:4).
- When the wicked die, there's no longer any hope for them. They're lost forever and can't be saved (Proverbs 11:7).
- Cities rejoice when the righteous flourish (Proverbs 11:10).
- Cities rejoice when the wicked perish (Proverbs 11:10).

- The words of the wicked can destroy entire cities (Proverbs 11:11).
- There are times when those who have understanding remain quiet (Proverbs 11:12). There's a time to speak, and a time to refrain from speaking.
- It's bad to despise your neighbor (Proverbs 11:12).
- It's bad to reveal people's secrets (Proverbs 11:13).
- It's not wrong to keep secrets – especially the secrets of other people (Proverbs 11:13).
- Nations are destroyed by lack of counsel (Proverbs 11:14).
- In order to retain riches, you need strength (Proverbs 11:16).
- Mercy benefits the soul of those who show mercy (Proverbs 11:17).
- Cruelty brings physical harm to those who are cruel (Proverbs 11:17).
- The wicked can't be trusted (Proverbs 11:18).
- Those who spread righteousness will be rewarded (Proverbs 11:18).
- Those who pursue evil are pursuing their own deaths (Proverbs 11:19).
- It's an abomination to the Lord to be contrary and difficult to deal with (Proverbs 11:20).
- The text doesn't say that people's sin is an abomination to God. Instead it says that the wicked are an abomination to Him (Proverbs 11:20).

- Even though the wicked form strong alliances, they won't go unpunished (Proverbs 11:21).
- Solomon compared a beautiful woman who lacked discretion to a jewel in the nose of a pig (Proverbs 11:22). Under the Mosaic Law, pigs were unclean animals that had to be avoided. That's how important discretion is!
- Refusing to give to others, and keeping your possessions for yourself, doesn't mean you'll become rich (Proverbs 11:24).
- Giving generously to others doesn't mean you'll become poor (Proverbs 11:24).
- Being generous is a blessing to our soul, and nurtures it (Proverbs 11:25).
- It's a terrible thing to have food, but to refuse to sell it to those who are hungry (Proverbs 11:26).
- Those who trust in their riches will fall (Proverbs 11:28).
- Righteousness is better than wealth (Proverbs 11:28).
- He who wins souls is wise (Proverbs 11:30).
- One day the righteousness will be recompensed here, *in this world* (Proverbs 11:31).
- A person can't be established in life through wickedness (Proverbs 12:3).
- A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband. She's a precious treasure that improves his life and gives him glory and honor (Proverbs 12:4).
- A wife who brings shame is a disease to her husband. She harms him and makes his life worse (Proverbs 12:4).

- One day people will be commended according to the amount of wisdom that they possess (Proverbs 12:8).
- The text doesn't say that a person's perversion will be despised. Instead it says that the perverse individual will be despised (Proverbs 12:8).
- Perversion is a matter of the heart (Proverbs 12:8).
- What matters in life isn't the image you project, but the reality of your circumstances (Proverbs 12:9).
- God wants us to care about the lives of our animals (Proverbs 12:10).
- The wicked may think they're being merciful, but in reality they're being cruel (Proverbs 12:10).
- The wicked are snared by their sinful words, which catch them and bring judgment upon them (Proverbs 12:13).
- Fools don't see problems with what they're doing. Their foolish actions make sense to them (Proverbs 12:15).
- It's possible to think you're doing the right thing, but in reality be doing something very foolish (Proverbs 12:15).
- Those who listen to counsel are wise (Proverbs 12:15).
- Speaking the truth is an act of righteousness (Proverbs 12:17).
- The words of the wise brings health (Proverbs 12:18).
- Those who speak the truth will be established forever (Proverbs 12:19).
- Those who speak lies will perish (Proverbs 12:19).
- No evil will happen to the just (Proverbs 12:21). In other

words, all things work together for good for those who love God (Romans 8:28).

- The lives of the wicked will be filled with problems (Proverbs 12:21).
- God delights in those who deal faithfully and honestly with others (Proverbs 12:22).
- There are times when it's an act of wisdom to conceal something and not mention it (Proverbs 12:23).
- Fools can be spotted by the foolish things they say (Proverbs 12:23).
- One of the characteristics of lazy people is that they're careless with their possessions, including their food (Proverbs 12:27). Those who are diligent care about their possessions (which is a good thing).
- The path of righteousness doesn't lead to death (Proverbs 12:28).
- The soul of lazy people desires many things (Proverbs 13:4). However, they have nothing because they're lazy and won't work to obtain them.
- The soul of the diligent will be made fat (Proverbs 13:4).
- One of the characteristics of the righteous is that they hate lying (Proverbs 13:5).
- One day the wicked will come to shame (Proverbs 13:5).
- Righteousness keeps the upright on the right path (Proverbs 13:6).
- It can be dangerous to have wealth, because wealth can make people a target for criminals (Proverbs 13:8).

- Those who obtain their wealth by wickedness will see their wealth diminished (Proverbs 13:11).
- Those who obtain their wealth by hard work will see it increase (Proverbs 13:11).
- Those who despise the Word of God will be destroyed (Proverbs 13:13).
- Sin doesn't make life easier or better (Proverbs 13:15).
- Fools consider it an abomination to stop being evil (Proverbs 13:19).
- Those who choose wise companions will become wise (Proverbs 13:20).
- Those who choose foolish companions will be destroyed (Proverbs 13:20).
- Those who do good will be repaid for the good that they've done (Proverbs 13:21).
- The wealth of sinners is laid up for those who are just (Proverbs 13:22).
- Those who lack judgment can destroy many things (Proverbs 13:23).
- Refusing to discipline your child is an act of hate, not love (Proverbs 13:24).
- Those who do what's right are demonstrating that they fear the Lord (Proverbs 14:2).
- Those who walk in perversion are demonstrating that they don't fear the Lord (Proverbs 14:2).
- It's impossible for a scorner to gain wisdom (Proverbs 14:6).

- If you find yourself around a foolish person then you should leave (Proverbs 14:7).
- Those who don't take sin seriously, and who mock it, are fools (Proverbs 14:9).
- Those who are simple minded believe everything they're told (Proverbs 14:15).
- Those who are wise fear the Lord and stop doing evil (Proverbs 14:16). Evil isn't wise.
- Fools feel good about the sins they're committing. They're confident in their evil (Proverbs 14:16).
- Those who quickly become angry are fools (Proverbs 14:17).
- Those who are evil will one day bow down before those who are good (Proverbs 14:19).
- Those who talk instead of work will become poor (Proverbs 14:23).
- If you seek to escape death then fear the Lord (Proverbs 14:27).
- A kingdom is better off when it contains many people (Proverbs 14:28). A prince is ruined when his kingdom is empty.
- Envy harms those who are envious (Proverbs 14:30).
- Those who oppress the poor are reproaching God (Proverbs 14:31). That means an attack on the poor is an attack on God Himself.
- One of the characteristics of the righteous is that they have mercy on the poor (Proverbs 14:31).

- Righteousness exalts a nation (Proverbs 14:34).
- Sin brings reproach on nations (Proverbs 14:34).
- Soft and gentle answers turn away anger (Proverbs 15:1).
- Perverse words damage the spirit (Proverbs 15:4).
- There's much treasure in the house of the righteous (Proverbs 15:6).
- There's much trouble in the income of the wicked (Proverbs 15:6).
- The wise share their knowledge with others (Proverbs 15:7).
- Fools are incapable of sharing knowledge (Proverbs 15:7).
- God doesn't accept gifts from the wicked (Proverbs 15:8).
- God delights in the prayers of the upright (Proverbs 15:8).
- The wicked hate correction (Proverbs 15:10).
- Those who hate reproof will die (Proverbs 15:10).
- The Lord sees what's in our heart (Proverbs 15:11).
- Scorners hate wisdom (Proverbs 15:12).
- A person's heart affects their countenance (Proverbs 15:13).
- Fools feed on foolishness (Proverbs 15:14).
- Those who have a merry heart live as though they're at a continual feast (Proverbs 15:15).
- The attitude of your heart determines whether you enjoy your life (Proverbs 15:15). Your attitude can matter more than your circumstances. A bad attitude can turn a good

day into a bad one, while a good attitude can bring forth joy even in difficult circumstances.

- Great wealth isn't worth it if it brings trouble and makes life harder (Proverbs 15:16).
- It's better to fear the Lord than to have great wealth (Proverbs 15:16).
- A meal's circumstances are more important than the meal itself. A rich meal that's eaten in an atmosphere of hatred isn't a rich meal, and a poor meal that's eaten in an atmosphere of love isn't a poor meal (Proverbs 15:17).
- Solomon considered a dinner of herbs (vegetables) to be a poor meal (Proverbs 15:17).
- A person who seeks to stir up strife is revealing that they're full of wrath (Proverbs 15:18).
- Being lazy makes life harder, not easier (Proverbs 15:19).
- God watches over widows (Proverbs 15:25).
- The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord (Proverbs 15:26).
- Those who are greedy bring trouble to their own house (Proverbs 15:27). Being greedy doesn't make your life better.
- It's good to consider your words before saying anything (Proverbs 15:28).
- The Lord hears the prayers of the righteous (Proverbs 15:29).
- Good news can impact your health (Proverbs 15:30).
- Those who listen to reproof and heed it are wise

(Proverbs 15:31).

- Refusing instruction is an act of spite to your soul (Proverbs 15:32).
- The path to honor is through humility (Proverbs 15:33).
- The Lord is sovereign over our heart (Proverbs 16:1).
- The Lord is sovereign over our words (Proverbs 16:1).
- The Lord has made everything for Himself (Proverbs 16:4).
- The Lord created the wicked for the day of evil (Proverbs 16:4).
- Iniquity is purged by mercy (Proverbs 16:6).
- Iniquity is purged by truth (Proverbs 16:6). This means truth is a powerful weapon against sin.
- The fear of the Lord causes people to depart from evil (Proverbs 16:6).
- When a person's ways please the Lord, God makes that person's enemies be at peace with him (Proverbs 16:7). This means God has control over our enemies.
- The path to peace isn't to find a way to appease our enemies. Instead it's to do what's right in the sight of God so He handles our enemies (Proverbs 16:7).
- Although people come up with plans for their life, God is the one who directs their life in the way He wants it to go (Proverbs 16:9).
- It's an abomination in God's sight when rulers commit wickedness (Proverbs 16:12).

- Thrones are established through righteousness, not wickedness (Proverbs 16:12).
- It's better to be a humble person who's around other humble people, than to divide riches with those who are proud (Proverbs 16:19).
- Happiness comes from trusting in the Lord (Proverbs 16:20).
- Being sincere and meaning well isn't enough to save you from death (Proverbs 16:25).
- The reason we work is to satisfy our desires (Proverbs 16:26).
- Those who are ungodly seek to dig up evil (Proverbs 16:27).
- It's wrong to sow strife (Proverbs 16:28).
- The words of the wicked are dangerous (Proverbs 16:30).
- Having white hair is a crown of glory, if it's the result of a righteous life (Proverbs 16:31).
- It's better to rule over your spirit than to conquer a city (Proverbs 16:32).
- The Lord determines everything that take place, including every roll of the dice. There's no such thing as random chance (Proverbs 16:33).
- Strife can ruin a feast (Proverbs 17:1).
- What matters isn't your wealth, but whether your house is peaceful (Proverbs 17:1).
- God tests our heart (Proverbs 17:3).

- One of the characteristics of the wicked is that they give heed to lies (Proverbs 17:4).
- Those who mock the poor are mocking God as well (Proverbs 17:5).
- Grandchildren are the crown of old men (Proverbs 17:6).
- Children glory in their fathers (Proverbs 17:6).
- It's not fitting for fools to say wise things. This is because they're fools, and wisdom isn't part of their nature (Proverbs 17:7).
- God doesn't permit rulers to tell lies (Proverbs 17:7).
- Fools are more dangerous than angry bears (Proverbs 17:12).
- If a person does evil to someone who did him good, his house will be cursed with evil (Proverbs 17:13).
- Those who justify the wicked are an abomination to God (Proverbs 17:15).
- Those who condemn the just are an abomination to God (Proverbs 17:15).
- It's possible to pay someone to teach you wisdom, but that can't give you a heart to receive wisdom (Proverbs 17:16).
- A friend loves at all times (Proverbs 17:17).
- Those who love sin also love strife (Proverbs 17:19).
- Having a cheerful heart can have health benefits (Proverbs 17:22).
- Having a broken spirit can damage your health (Proverbs

17:22).

- Those who seek to pervert judgment are wicked (Proverbs 17:23).
- The eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth. He can't see what's right in front of him (Proverbs 17:24).
- Those who have understanding are careful with their words. They speak little instead of speaking much (Proverbs 17:27). The wise are people of few words.
- If a fool remains silent then people may think that he's wise (Proverbs 17:28). The foolishness of fools is revealed when they speak.
- The wise delight in discovering wisdom. Fools delight in discovering themselves (Proverbs 18:1-2).
- The wicked bring reproach to a society (Proverbs 18:3).
- Solomon compares people's words to deep waters. There's more going on than what's on the surface (Proverbs 18:4).
- The wicked want to have judgment overthrown so that the righteous are punished instead of the wicked (Proverbs 18:5).
- Solomon compares the words of those who reveal secrets to wounds (Proverbs 18:8).
- Being lazy is a form of being wasteful (Proverbs 18:9).
- It's foolish to address a situation before you've learned what's going on (Proverbs 18:13).
- The wise gain knowledge by listening (Proverbs 18:15).
- One way to obtain an audience with rich or powerful

people is by giving them something (Proverbs 18:16).

- It's not wise to act on the basis of what a single person has to say, because that person may not be telling you the full story (Proverbs 18:17).
- Casting lots is a good way to end disputes and settle matters (Proverbs 18:18).
- It's easier to conquer a strong city than to win back someone who's been offended (Proverbs 18:19).
- In order to have friends you must be willing to compromise (Proverbs 18:24). That's a bad thing, not a good thing.
- Integrity is better than wealth (Proverbs 19:1).
- The reason many people become friends with someone is because of what they can get out of the relationship. They're seeking gifts, or wealth, or power (Proverbs 19:4, 6-7). Many people are unwilling to be friends with the poor because the poor have nothing to offer. This means that in the end, what many people want out of a relationship is money.
- It's bad for fools to be delighted. If a fool is delighted then something has gone very wrong (Proverbs 19:10).
- There are times when the best course of action is to not take offense, and not get angry (Proverbs 19:11).
- A contentious wife is hard to bear. She's a constant source of problems, and brings great pain and suffering into her husband's life (Proverbs 19:13).
- It's good for fathers to give houses and wealth to their children as an inheritance (Proverbs 19:14).

- A prudent wife is a blessing from the Lord (Proverbs 19:14).
- The text doesn't say that those who are hungry because of laziness should be fed. Instead it says they should suffer the consequences of their actions (Proverbs 19:15). It's not the responsibility of others to take care of lazy people and make sure they have food.
- Those who have pity on the poor and give them what they need are actually giving to the Lord (Proverbs 19:17). God will repay what they've given to the poor.
- Children should be disciplined while it can still make a difference in their life (Proverbs 19:18).
- Being a liar is worse than being poor (Proverbs 19:22).
- God will satisfy those who fear Him (Proverbs 19:23).
- Simple minded people can learn by seeing other people punished (Proverbs 19:25).
- It's shameful for children to destroy their relationship with their parents (Proverbs 19:26).
- We must be careful not to be deceived by alcohol (Proverbs 20:1).
- Those who stir up fights are fools (Proverbs 20:3).
- Those who put an end to fights are wise (Proverbs 20:3).
- Lazy people are unwilling to work in anything less than ideal conditions (Proverbs 20:4).
- Those who are wise ask questions. They don't blindly accept whatever they're told and leave it at that (Proverbs 20:5).

- It's not cynical to suspect that many people who claim to be good aren't actually good people at all (Proverbs 20:6). It's extremely difficult to find someone who's faithful.
- Rulers have a responsibility to fight evil (Proverbs 20:8).
- Everyone has a sinful heart (Proverbs 20:9).
- Those who love sleep will become poor (Proverbs 20:13).
- Stealing may seem very sweet to thieves, but in the end it leads to the grave (Proverbs 20:17).
- There are serious consequences for cursing your parents (Proverbs 20:20).
- Instead of taking revenge on your enemies, you must wait on the Lord. He will avenge you in due time (Proverbs 20:22).
- Since God is guiding our steps and leading us through life, it's impossible to draw any conclusions about our circumstances. A life that's full of problems and suffering may be exactly what is needed to carry out God's purposes. In order to understand everything that happens we would need His knowledge, which we don't have (Proverbs 20:24).
- It's a snare to take action and then ask questions later (Proverbs 20:25).
- A wise ruler removes the wicked from his nation (Proverbs 20:26).
- The glory of the young is their strength (Proverbs 20:29).
- The beauty of the old is their gray hair (Proverbs 20:29).
- Punishments can cleanse evil by causing people to turn

away from their evil ways, and change their inward nature (Proverbs 20:30).

- God determines the actions of kings. He controls their heart (Proverbs 21:1).
- Everything that the wicked do (even simply plowing their fields) is a sin in the sight of God (Proverbs 21:4). This is because the wicked aren't doing it for His glory.
- It's impossible for those who aren't saved to lead a good life, because everything do is a sin in God's sight (Proverbs 21:4).
- Those who obtain wealth through lies are actually seeking death (Proverbs 21:6).
- It's better to be poor than to live with an argumentative wife in a large house (Proverbs 21:9). The character of a wife has an enormous impact on her home.
- The soul of the wicked desires evil (Proverbs 21:10).
- The wise can learn wisdom by simply being taught. If they're given instruction they will learn from it (Proverbs 21:11).
- You must listen to the cries of the poor, and help them when they call out (Proverbs 21:13). If you ignore their cries then your cries will be ignored as well.
- One way to appease someone who's angry is by giving them a gift (Proverbs 21:14).
- Those who love pleasure will become poor (Proverbs 21:17).
- It's better to be homeless than to live with an angry woman (Proverbs 21:19). A contentious and angry wife

turns her home into a nightmare.

- Those who are foolish spend their wealth (Proverbs 21:20).
- Those who are wise can defeat those who are mighty (Proverbs 21:22).
- The wicked covet what belongs to others. However, the righteous give generously (Proverbs 21:26).
- The gifts that the wicked give to God are an abomination to Him, and He doesn't want them (Proverbs 21:27). This is especially true when the wicked give those gifts with wicked motives. The wicked can't purchase God's favor with gifts because *God doesn't want their gifts*.
- The upright seek to walk in God's paths. However, the wicked deliberately harden themselves against God and reject His ways (Proverbs 21:29).
- It's better to have a good reputation than to have great wealth (Proverbs 22:1).
- Those who are prudent see problems coming and protect themselves (Proverbs 22:3). This means taking action to protect yourself against problems that are coming in the future isn't failing to trust God. Instead it's the right thing to do.
- Those who are simple minded don't see problems coming, do nothing to prevent them, and get hurt (Proverbs 22:3). Those who can't see trouble coming are simple minded, and suffer needlessly.
- Those who are rebellious will have a life that's full of thorns, snares, and problems (Proverbs 22:5). Being difficult, stubborn, and hostile doesn't make life better.

Instead it makes life worse.

- If you want a child to become a wise adult then you must train them when they're still young (Proverbs 22:6).
- Those who lend money rule over those who owe them money (Proverbs 22:7).
- If the scorner is cast out then the problems that were caused by him will stop (Proverbs 22:10).
- The Lord preserves knowledge (Proverbs 22:12).
- The Lord overthrows the words of transgressors (Proverbs 22:12).
- One of the characteristics of lazy people is that they give ridiculous excuses for why they can't work (Proverbs 22:13). Their excuses shouldn't be taken seriously.
- There are some people that God abhors (Proverbs 22:14).
- One of the ways God punishes people is by letting them become prey for immoral women (Proverbs 22:14).
- If children aren't corrected then they'll remain foolish (Proverbs 22:15).
- Those who oppress the poor will become poor (Proverbs 22:16).
- Those who give gifts to the rich will become poor (Proverbs 22:16).
- If you want to be able to answer people's questions then you need the words of truth (Proverbs 22:21).
- Don't become friends with an angry person (Proverbs 22:24-25). There are some people you must not become friends with, because if you do there's a risk you'll

become like them.

- Becoming friends with a wicked person is a snare to your soul. It will harm you, and it won't benefit the wicked person (Proverbs 22:25).
- It's not wrong to be rich, but it *is* unwise to seek wealth (Proverbs 23:4-5). It's foolish to set your heart on riches because they're temporary and easily lost.
- Don't talk to a fool, or try to share wisdom with a fool (Proverbs 23:9). This is because fools despise wisdom.
- God will punish those who steal from orphans (Proverbs 23:10-11).
- It's wrong to envy sinners (Proverbs 23:17). In the end, sinners will perish.
- Instead of listening to your heart or following your heart, you must guide your heart (Proverbs 23:19).
- You must not spend time around drunkards or gluttons (Proverbs 23:20).
- Those who are drunkards will come to poverty (Proverbs 23:21).
- Those who are gluttonous will come to poverty (Proverbs 23:21).
- Those who are lazy will come to poverty (Proverbs 23:21).
- Wine is dangerous (Proverbs 23:29-32). It may seem pleasurable at first, but in the end it will bite you like a snake.
- There are all sorts of terrible consequences for being a drunkard (Proverbs 23:29).

- Being a drunkard opens you to being tempted by immoral women (Proverbs 23:33).
- Being a drunkard opens you to saying perverse and sinful things (Proverbs 23:33).
- Being a drunkard disconnects you from reality (Proverbs 23:35).
- The terrible things that a drunkard goes through doesn't keep them from wanting more alcohol. They suffer, but they don't learn from the experience (Proverbs 23:35).
- Don't envy the wicked (Proverbs 24:1).
- Don't desire to be with wicked people (Proverbs 24:1).
- The wicked are a destructive force in society. They seek to tear things down (Proverbs 24:2).
- It's not wrong to fill a house with riches (Proverbs 24:3-4).
- Foolish thoughts are actually sinful (Proverbs 24:9).
- If you faint in the day of adversity then your strength is small (Proverbs 24:10).
- You have a responsibility to save innocent people who are about to be killed (Proverbs 24:11-12). God will hold you accountable if you do nothing and allow those around you to die.
- You have a responsibility to know what's going on, so you can save those who are in danger (Proverbs 24:11-12).
- Even if a just man falls seven times, he will rise up again (Proverbs 24:16).
- Don't rejoice when your enemy falls (Proverbs 24:17-18). That displeases the Lord.

- It's wrong to envy the wicked, because one day they'll perish (Proverbs 24:19-20).
- The destruction of the wicked will be very sudden. It will come out of nowhere, without warning (Proverbs 24:21-22).
- It's wrong to sentence people based on who they are. Judgment must be administered impartially, regardless of who the person is (Proverbs 24:23).
- Those who say that the wicked are righteous will be cursed (Proverbs 24:24).
- Those who rebuke the wicked will be blessed (Proverbs 24:25).
- Put your fields in order before you build your house (Proverbs 24:27). You need to make sure that you have a good source of income before building a house.
- It's wrong to return evil for evil (Proverbs 24:29).
- Lazy people don't take care of their property (Proverbs 24:30-31). Instead they allow it to fall into ruin.
- Hezekiah collected the proverbs of Solomon (Proverbs 25:1).
- It glorifies God to conceal things, and it honors kings to find the things God has concealed (Proverbs 25:2).
- There are some things God has deliberately hidden, but which can be found through hard work (Proverbs 25:2).
- You should search for the things that God has hidden (Proverbs 25:2).
- There's more going on in the heart of rulers than what

appears on the surface. Their heart is exceedingly deep (Proverbs 25:3).

- Solomon compares removing wicked people from a nation to removing dross from silver. Once the wicked are removed, the nation can be established in righteousness. However, as long as the wicked are there, the nation is unfit for any task (Proverbs 25:4-5). A nation that tolerates the wicked isn't a righteous nation.
- It's better to be invited into the presence of the king, than for the king to humiliate you by sending you away when you came uninvited (Proverbs 25:7).
- Don't get involved in a fight before you know what's going on (Proverbs 25:8).
- If you have a disagreement with your neighbor then discuss it with him, not with other people (Proverbs 25:9).
- Don't share your neighbor's secrets with other people (Proverbs 25:9).
- Being reproved by the wise is a valuable gift (Proverbs 25:12).
- It's foolish to boast about something you don't have (Proverbs 25:14).
- It's foolish to do things that are all style but lack substance (Proverbs 25:14).
- Rulers must be dealt with very carefully. In order to persuade them you must exercise restraint over a long period of time (Proverbs 25:15).
- If you find something good, eat until you're satisfied and

then stop. Don't keep going until you injure yourself (Proverbs 25:16). It's possible to have too much of a good thing.

- If you visit your neighbor's house too many times, he will come to hate you (Proverbs 25:17).
- Singing songs to those who have a heavy heart is like taking a person's garment away in cold weather (Proverbs 25:20). It makes things worse.
- God doesn't allow us to stand back and let our enemies starve. Instead we must help them (Proverbs 25:21-22). If we do this then the Lord will reward us.
- If you want to make your enemy suffer then help him in his time of need (Proverbs 25:22).
- An angry countenance can silence a backbiting tongue (Proverbs 25:23).
- A wife's bad attitude can make her household miserable (Proverbs 25:24).
- Good news from a distant country is good for the soul (Proverbs 25:25).
- Solomon compared the defeat of the righteous to a corrupted spring of water. It's poisonous and impacts the whole community in a negative way (Proverbs 25:26).
- It's not good for people to glorify themselves (Proverbs 25:27). That kind of glory isn't worth having.
- Those who have no self control are defenseless (Proverbs 25:28).
- Fools don't deserve honor (Proverbs 26:1).

- If an innocent person is cursed, that curse won't come to rest on them (Proverbs 26:2).
- One day God will punish fools for their foolishness (Proverbs 26:10).
- There's more hope for a fool than for someone who's wise in his own eyes (Proverbs 26:12).
- Lazy people are grieved by the thought of working. Even doing tiny amounts of work is upsetting to them (Proverbs 26:15).
- Lazy people won't listen to others. They believe they're wiser than everyone else (Proverbs 26:16).
- Just because you can give a wise answer doesn't mean people will listen to you. If people are wise in their own eyes then they'll reject what you have to say, even if you can prove your position with logic and reason (Proverbs 26:16).
- It's a terrible thing to get involved in a fight that has nothing to do with you (Proverbs 26:17).
- Solomon compared a man who deceives his neighbor to a mass murderer who firebombs innocent people (Proverbs 26:18-19).
- People who do something terrible and then claim they were "only joking" are actually doing something extremely wicked. Solomon compared them to mass murderers (Proverbs 26:18-19).
- Solomon compared gossip to fuel for a fire. It leads directly to strife (Proverbs 26:20).
- If you want to end strife then get rid of contentious

people. They're the ones who start strife and keep it going (Proverbs 26:21).

- Solomon compared a person who reveals secrets to a criminal who goes around stabbing people. The words of a gossip are like the stab wounds of a knife (Proverbs 26:22).
- Solomon compared the words of a wicked person to a pottery shard that's covered in silver. Even if the words themselves seem to be good, the reality that's underneath isn't (Proverbs 26:23). The kind words of wicked people can't be trusted.
- Those who hate other people, and tell lies to ensnare them, have seven abominations in their heart (Proverbs 26:24-25).
- The wicked won't be able to hide their wickedness forever (Proverbs 26:26).
- Flattery ruins people's lives (Proverbs 26:28).
- Don't boast about tomorrow because you don't know what's going to happen (Proverbs 27:1).
- Envy is worse than wrath (Proverbs 27:4).
- It's better to openly rebuke someone than to secretly love them (Proverbs 27:5). An open rebuke can help someone, but a love they never know about doesn't help them in any way.
- When you're hungry, you can find sweetness in things that aren't sweet at all (Proverbs 27:7).
- Don't forsake your father's friend (Proverbs 27:10).
- In the day of calamity, go to a neighbor who's nearby

instead of a brother far away (Proverbs 27:10).

- It's bad to bless someone with a loud voice early in the morning (Proverbs 27:14).
- Servants must be allowed to partake of the harvest that they worked to obtain (Proverbs 27:18).
- Hell is never satisfied (Proverbs 27:20).
- Destruction is never satisfied (Proverbs 27:20).
- The eyes of man are never satisfied (Proverbs 27:20).
- Make sure you know the state of your household. Keep close watch over it and don't lose sight of what's going on (Proverbs 27:23).
- If you want to have good things in life (such as food or clothing for your household) then you should work for them (Proverbs 27:25-27).
- The wicked lack courage (Proverbs 28:1).
- The righteous are bold (Proverbs 28:1).
- If a land is full of sin then God will punish it by having many bureaucrats rule over it (Proverbs 28:2).
- The life of a nation is prolonged by people of understanding and knowledge (Proverbs 28:2).
- It's a terrible thing when poor people oppress other poor people (Proverbs 28:3).
- People who forsake the law praise the wicked (Proverbs 28:4). If you find people praising the wicked, you've found people who have forsaken the law.
- We must not be a companion of those who are lawless

(Proverbs 28:7).

- Being rich can make it more difficult to understand things, because the rich may become conceited and trust in themselves (Proverbs 28:11).
- When the wicked rise to power, people hide themselves (Proverbs 28:12).
- Those who hide their sins, and refuse to seek forgiveness for them, won't prosper (Proverbs 28:13).
- Those who confess their sins and forsake them will find mercy (Proverbs 28:13).
- If you want to prolong your life then hate covetousness (Proverbs 28:16).
- It's wrong to save the lives of those who inflict violence on the innocent (Proverbs 28:17).
- Those who are hasty to get rich will fall into sin (Proverbs 28:20).
- It's better to rebuke someone than to to flatter them (Proverbs 28:23).
- Those who steal from their parents are destroyers (Proverbs 28:24).
- Those who trust their heart are fools (Proverbs 28:26).
- Those who refuse to help the poor will be cursed (Proverbs 28:27).
- When the wicked perish, the righteous flourish (Proverbs 28:28).
- It's not wise to argue with fools, because fools hate wisdom. Arguing with a fool leads to a fight that doesn't

do anyone any good (Proverbs 29:9).

- The fool says everything that's on his mind (Proverbs 29:11). The wise know when to speak and when to remain silent.
- If a ruler listens to lies then he'll have wicked servants (Proverbs 29:12).
- If you want to securely establish your kingdom then faithfully judge the poor (Proverbs 29:14).
- Pride brings people low (Proverbs 29:23). It's very dangerous to be proud.
- It's wrong to listen to people plot terrible things but do nothing about it, and allow evil to come to pass (Proverbs 29:4).
- Even though people seek the favor of rulers, the decisions that rulers make comes from the Lord (Proverbs 29:26).
- The wicked are an abomination to the upright (Proverbs 29:27).
- The upright are an abomination to the wicked (Proverbs 29:27).
- The text doesn't say that the acts of the wicked are an abomination to the upright. Instead it says that the wicked themselves are an abomination (Proverbs 29:27).
- Every word of God is pure. All of His words are true and right and accurate (Proverbs 30:5).
- God is a shield to those who put their trust in Him (Proverbs 30:5).
- God will reprove those who add to His words (Proverbs

30:6). Those who add to His words are liars.

- Having riches is dangerous because it can lead to pride. Once people become rich they may think they no longer need God (Proverbs 30:8-9).
- Being poor is dangerous because the poor may be tempted to steal and enter a life of sin (Proverbs 30:8-9).
- One of the characteristics of the wicked is that they hate the poor and seek to slaughter them (Proverbs 30:14).
- Some people never stop demanding things. No matter how much they receive, they insist that the wealth of others be taken away and given to them. Those people are leeches, and they're very wicked (Proverbs 30:15).
- The earth itself cannot bear a situation where a fool is full of food (Proverbs 30:21-22). If a fool is full of food then something bad has happened.
- God doesn't require us to feed fools (Proverbs 30:22). Instead they should go hungry, so they learn to abandon their foolishness and become wise.
- God doesn't require men to marry vile women (Proverbs 30:21, 23). If a vile woman is married then something terrible has happened.
- Lemuel's mother was a prophet (Proverbs 31:1).
- Part of Proverbs was written by a woman (Proverbs 31:1).
- The reason kings shouldn't drink alcoholic beverages is because they might get drunk and pervert judgment, and afflict people (Proverbs 31:4-5).
- It's good to give alcohol to people who are suffering so that, for a time, they don't remember their misery

(Proverbs 31:6-7).

- It's good to help those who are miserable forget their misery for a while (Proverbs 31:7).
- Kings should speak up for those who don't have anyone else to speak up for them (Proverbs 31:8).
- Kings should plead the cause of the poor (Proverbs 31:9).
- The reason a husband fully trusts a virtuous woman is because he knows she will only do him good. She's not going to cause problems or make him suffer any loss (Proverbs 31:11).
- A virtuous woman works with her hands (Proverbs 31:13).
- A virtuous woman obtains food for her household from distant places (Proverbs 31:14).
- A virtuous woman gets up when it's still dark outside (Proverbs 31:15).
- A virtuous woman looks for opportunities to expand her household by buying land, planting new crops, and increasing her family's wealth (Proverbs 31:16).
- A virtuous woman takes care of the poor (Proverbs 31:20).
- A virtuous woman clothes her household in high-quality clothing (Proverbs 31:21).
- A virtuous woman creates goods by hand and sells them, for the benefit of her household (Proverbs 31:24).
- A virtuous woman runs her own business from her home (Proverbs 31:24).

- It's good for women to be strong (Proverbs 31:25).
- A virtuous woman speaks words of wisdom (Proverbs 31:26).
- Beauty isn't what makes a woman great (Proverbs 31:30). What makes a woman great is her virtue (whether she fears the Lord and walks in His ways).
- A woman who fears the Lord will be praised (Proverbs 31:30).
- Virtuous women should receive the reward of their efforts. They should keep what they've earned and enjoy it (Proverbs 31:31). They're entitled to the fruit of their labor, and it must not be taken from them.
- It's good for others to see the works of a virtuous woman and praise her for what she's done (Proverbs 31:31).