

**FAITH THAT WORKS**  
**A THEMATIC STUDY OF PROVERBS**  
**#1: WHY WISDOM MATTERS:**  
**INTRODUCTION TO PROVERBS**  
**JIM HINTON**



**I. INTRODUCTION TO PROVERBS**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ study this book?

- Proverbs is the Word of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our world is starving for \_\_\_\_\_.

What wisdom is

True Biblical Wisdom is \_\_\_\_\_, applying, and obeying God's Word in my life.

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

James 1:22 (NLT)

Wise men and women have the competence to grasp the meaning of a situation and understand what to do and how to do in the right way at the right time.

Warren Wiersbe

Wisdom means being skillful and successful in one's relationships and responsibilities... observing and following the Creator's principles of order in the moral universe.

Dr. Roy Zuck

## **There are two kinds of wisdom**

**God's Wisdom and the \_\_\_\_\_ wisdom.**

For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.

James 3:15-17 (NLT)

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote this book?**

**There appear to be at least three authors: King Solomon, who wrote over 3000 proverbs penned most of the book of Proverbs. Agur, son of Jakeh and King Lemuel also contributed. Lemuel means "dedicated unto God" and could be another name for Solomon.**

**A discussion of the successes and failures of King Solomon**

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ was it written?**

**Proverbs was written during Solomon's reign from 970 to 931 BC and edited through the reign of Hezekiah around 700 BC.**

**4. \_\_\_\_\_ was it written?**

**(See Proverbs 1:1-6)**

Whoever blesses his friend early in the morning with a loud voice—his blessing is considered a curse.

Proverbs 27:14 (GOD'S WORD)

5. \_\_\_\_\_ is it written?

What kinds of characteristics should we look for that will help us get the most out of this study?

- \_\_\_\_\_: Stream of consciousness.
- \_\_\_\_\_: A loving parent advising their child (See Proverbs 2:1-8)

As we come to the book of Proverbs, God does not intend to crush us with layer upon layer of demand. He intends to help us. The book of Proverbs is practical help for weak people like us stumbling through daily life. It is his counsel for the perplexed, strength for the defeated, his warning to the proud, his mercy for the broken.

Ray Ortlund

- \_\_\_\_\_: A proverb is a general truth – not a promise.

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 16:18 (NIV)

Train a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not turn away from it.

Proverbs 22:6 (GOD'S WORD)

## II. WHY WISDOM MATTERS

### 1. True wisdom is \_\_\_\_\_ in God's Word.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge. Stubborn fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Proverbs 1:7 (GOD'S WORD)

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

### 2. True wisdom is \_\_\_\_\_ me with God's Ways.

Fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.

Proverbs 9:10 (NLT)

Believers may not often realize it, but even as believers we are either centered on man or centered on God. There is no alternative. Either God is the center of our universe and we have become rightly adjusted to him, or we have made ourselves the center and are attempting to make all else orbit around us and for us.

DeVern Fromke

### 3. True wisdom \_\_\_\_\_ me to live successfully.