

The Bible Panorama – Poetry III: Proverbs

“Wisdom in Life”

Proverbs 1:1-9

Going Beyond the sermons into the Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on February 11, 2018

Entering In:

Share one word of wisdom that has helped you through your life.

1. What is a proverb?

What benefits can one receive from studying the proverbs of Solomon?

Are proverbs to be taken as promises from God? Why or why not?

2. Who was the human writer of the book? What do you know about him?

What are the 5 purposes of the book (verses 2-6)?

What purpose would you most desire to be met in your life when reading Proverbs?

The word translated as “discipline” (v.2, NIV), is translated “instruction” in most other versions. How are *discipline* and *instruction* related?

Match the meaning of each word.

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| • Wisdom (2a) | _____ | Skillfulness |
| • Instruction (2a) | | Discernment |
| • Understanding (2b) | | Moral integrity |
| • Righteousness (3b) | | Sensibility in practical matters |
| • Justice (3b) | | Thoughtfulness |
| • Equity (3b) | | Child training |
| • Prudence (4a) | | Correct decisions |
| • Discretion (4b) | | Right behavior |

3. For whose benefit did Solomon write these proverbs (name 3 specific groups in verses 4-5).

Who are the *simple*?

What characteristics of the *young* require instruction/discipline?

Why must the *wise/discerning* listen?

4. What is the *beginning* of knowledge?

Which of the following best captures what the word “beginning” implies about obtaining knowledge (wisdom, instruction, or discipline)? Explain your choice.

- It is *only* the beginning.
- It is the *only* source.
- It is the *absolute* pre-requisite.
- Other

How have you found that to be true in your own life?

Why do we need to fear the LORD?

In what ways do you fear the LORD?

5. Thomas Aquinas wrote, in the first article of his *Summa Theologica*, “Now Scripture, inspired by God, is no part of philosophical science [knowledge], which has been built up by human reason.”

Which of the following would be legitimate inferences from Aquinas’ statement?

- There are two systems of knowledge: the one sacred, the other secular.
- We must believe in order to understand.
- Philosophical science is “different in kind” from that obtained in Scripture.
- Man’s *reason* is reliable, not having been seriously tainted by the fall.

What do the following verses have to say/imply about “philosophical science”?

- Colossians 2:8
- 1 Corinthians 2:14 (cf. Proverbs 1:7b)
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- 2 Corinthians 10:5

Do you think Aquinas is right, or is he contradicting Solomon (v.7)?

6. What are the three groups to whom proverbs are given? Summarize each proverb.

- A. Prov. 1:8-9:
- B. Prov. 1:10-19:
- C. Prov. 1:20-33:

7. Why do children need to listen to their parents?

- A. Because parents are always right.
- B. Because parents are stronger.
- C. Because parents know them best.
- D. Because parents are mean.
- E. Because God says so.
- F. Other

Is catechizing children sufficient “instruction”? Considering the nature of children, what else is expected of parents regarding the instruction of their children?

What results in the life of the child who listens to his parents?

Living It Out:

Pray that you will acknowledge and fear (revere) the Lord in all your ways more intentionally.