

# Bible Question Class Books

## **Bible Study Questions on The Book of Proverbs**

by David E. Pratte

**A workbook suitable for Bible classes,  
family studies, or personal Bible study**



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**“He who glories, let him glory in the Lord”  
– 1 Corinthians 1:31**

**Front Page Photo**

**The Temple in Jerusalem**

(Model of an artist’s conception)

“And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, ... Then she said to the king: ‘It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. ... and indeed the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me. You exceed the fame of which I heard. Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom!’” – 2 Chronicles 9:3-7 (NKJV)

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### Bible Question Class Books

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## Bible Study Questions on the Book of Proverbs

### Introduction:

This workbook was designed for Bible class study, family study, or personal study. The class book is suitable for teens and up. The questions contain minimal human commentary, but instead urge students to study to understand Scripture.

Enough questions are included for teachers to assign as many questions as they want for each study session. Studies may proceed at whatever speed and depth will best accomplish the needs of the students.

Questions labeled “think” are intended to encourage students to apply what they have learned. When questions refer to a map, students should consult maps in a Bible dictionary or similar reference work or in the back of their Bibles. (Note: My abbreviation “**b/c/v**” means “book, chapter, and verse.”)

For class instruction, I urge teachers to assign the questions as homework so students come to class prepared. Then let class time consist of **discussion** that focuses on the Scriptures themselves. Let the teacher use other Scriptures, questions, applications, and comments to promote productive discussion, not just reading the questions to see whether they were answered “correctly.” Please, do **not** let the class period consist primarily of the following: “Joe, will you answer number 1?” “Sue, what about number 2?” Etc.

I also urge students to emphasize the **Bible** teaching. Please, do not become bogged down over “What did the author mean by question #5?” My meaning is relatively unimportant. The issue is what the Bible says. Concentrate on the meaning and applications of Scripture. If a question helps promote Bible understanding, stay with it. If it becomes unproductive, move on.

The questions are not intended just to help students understand the Scriptures. They are also designed to help students learn good principles of Bible study. Good Bible study requires defining the meaning of keywords, studying parallel passages, explaining the meaning of the text clearly, making applications, and defending the truth as well as exposing religious error. I have included questions to encourage students to practice all these study principles.

Note that some questions on this book are more difficult and advanced. The study leader may want to skip some questions if he/she is teaching a less advanced study.

Finally, I encourage plain applications of the principles studied. God's word is written so souls may please God and have eternal life. Please study it with the respect and devotion it deserves!

For whatever good this material achieves, to God be the glory.

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## Assignments on Proverbs 1

Please read Proverbs 1 and answer the following questions.

1. Read as much of the book of Proverbs as you can and summarize its theme.

2. **Define** “proverb.”

3. What men wrote various of the Proverbs? Give proof.

4. **Special Assignment:** List some of the main events in the life of Solomon. Give book, chapter, & verse (b/c/v) for your statements.

5. Explain why this book was written (1:2).

6. **Define** “wisdom,” “instruction,” and “understanding.”

7. What other purposes are accomplished by the Proverbs (1:3-6)?

8. What is the source of true wisdom – 1:7? What lessons can we learn?

9. What are some methods that evil people use to entice others to participate with them in sin – 1:10-16?

10. What advice does Solomon give to help his son avoid temptation to evil?

11. What consequences come to those who are greedy of gain – 1:17-19?

12. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from Solomon's advice in 1:10-19?

13. Summarize the theme of 1:20-33. (Think: How is the term "wisdom" used in the book of Proverbs?)

14. In what places does Wisdom call to people – 1:20,21? (Think: What can we learn?)

15. What question does Wisdom ask in 1:22? How does the verse describe those who do not accept wisdom? (Think: In what sense do such people hate knowledge?)

16. What does Wisdom call on the people to do? What promise does she make – 1:23?

17. How had people reacted to Wisdom's call – 1:24,25?

18. **Define** reproof and counsel.

19. What problems does Wisdom say would come upon the people, and how would she react – 1:26,27?

20. What will people do when terror comes upon them, and what problems will they have – 1:28-31? Why would these problems occur?

21. **Application:** What should we learn from these warnings? Give examples.

22. What warning does Wisdom give and what promise does she make in 1:32,33?

## Assignments on Proverbs 2

Please read Proverbs 2 and answer the following questions.

1. What attitude should we have toward wisdom according to 2:1,2? What will we do if we have this attitude?

2. How does Solomon describe the desire we should have for wisdom in 2:3? What does this show about our human wisdom compared to wisdom we obtain from another source?

3. If one has the proper appreciation for wisdom, how diligently will he work to obtain it – 2:4? Give examples to illustrate how people search for treasure and material wealth.

<p>4. <b>Application:</b> What lessons should we learn about what we should do to obtain wisdom? What are some specific things we should do to obtain wisdom?</p>
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5. If we search for wisdom in the proper way, what promise does God make in 2:5?

6. List other **passages** showing God's word can be understood if we study properly.

7. What is the proper source of wisdom – 2:6? What does God promise to do for those who will seek wisdom from Him – 2:7,8?

8. What will result from a diligent search for wisdom according to 2:9-11?

9. Is the Bible to blame for the fact that people do not understand it? Explain.

<p>10. <b>Case Study:</b> A friend says, "I tried to study the Bible once, but I decided I just couldn't understand it, so I quit trying." What conclusions can we reach from the context about why some people do not understand the Bible?</p>
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11. From what can wisdom deliver us – 2:12-15?

12. List characteristics from these verses of the person who travels the way of evil.

13. **Application:** How does our society – especially entertainment – often view the kind of person described in these verses? How does this differ from the way wisdom views them?

14. In particular, from what kind of woman does wisdom deliver us in 2:16? Where else is such a woman described in the book of Proverbs?

15. What kind of speech is she guilty of? Why would such a woman speak this way?

16. How is she described in verse 17? Explain.

17. What are the consequences of following her according to verses 18,19?

18. **Application:** What lessons should young men and young women learn from the description of this woman?

19. Rather than walking in the paths of evil, what can wisdom lead us to do – 2:20?

20. Why is it important to walk in this path rather than the path of evil – 2:21,22?

21. **Case Study:** Suppose a person is serving God but wonders whether or not he is good enough to receive eternal life. Explain how this discussion of wisdom can help him.

## Assignments on Proverbs 3

Please read Proverbs 3 and answer the following questions.

1. What should we do with the commands we receive that are based on God's law? What blessings can they give us – 3:1,2?

2. What qualities should we cling to according to 3:3? How firmly should we hold them? Explain. What benefits would they give us – verses 3,4?

3. From where does proper guidance come? From where does it not come – 3:5,6?

4. **Application:** Give examples that demonstrate how people often trust in their own understanding rather than in the Lord.

5. What leads people to trust their own wisdom instead of that of God? What is the benefit of fearing God – verses 7,8?

6. What should we do with our possessions? Explain how we do this. What benefits will we receive – 3:9,10?

7. How should we view chastisement from the Lord? Where is this quoted in the New Testament? How does the passage illustrate God's chastisement of us – 3:11,12?

8. **Application:** Discuss some ways God may chastise his people. What are some ways people sometimes demonstrate that they do not appreciate this chastisement?

9. What man is truly happy – verses 13-15? How valuable are these qualities?

10. Wisdom leads to what blessings – 3:16-18? Explain how this may happen.

11. How does Solomon demonstrate the value of wisdom and knowledge – 3:19,20? Explain how these things demonstrate God's wisdom.

12. When people truly value wisdom and discretion, what will they do with them – 3:21? Explain why.

13. What benefits will wisdom and discretion give – 3:22,23? Why is this important?

14. How will wisdom affect our fears – 3:24-26? What is the source of this confidence? What should we learn?

15. What good should we practice? How do people sometimes try to avoid helping others – 3:27,28?

16. **Application:** What two conditions are given for helping others? Give examples of situations that meet the conditions and examples of situations that do not.

17. How should we treat a neighbor – 3:29? How does this differ from the world's idea?

18. What conduct is forbidden in verse 30? What condition is given? (Think: What might we do if this condition is not met?)

19. Whom should we not envy according to 3:31-33? What reasons are given?

20. How does God treat scorners – 3:34,35? To whom does He give grace?

21. List other similar **passages** about how God treats the humble.

## Assignments on Proverbs 4

Please read Proverbs 4 and answer the following questions.

1. What does the father urge his children to do in 4:1,2? Why?

2. What had his parents taught him – 4:3,4?

3. **Application:** What should parents and children learn from these instructions?

4. How important is it to obtain wisdom and understanding – verses 5-7? Why?

5. When we have wisdom, what should we do about it?

6. What will wisdom do for us when we have it – verses 8,9?

7. What are the advantages of following in the way of wisdom – 4:10-12?

8. What should we do with instruction – 4:13? Why is this important?

9. What should we do when we see the way wicked people walk – 4:14,15?

10. How does this differ from the way most people treat evil?

11. **Case study:** A friend says, “Sure I read ‘Playboy Magazine’ and watch X-rated movies. I figure it doesn’t hurt to **think** about those kinds of things as long as I don’t **do** anything immoral.” How do the principles taught in Proverbs apply to such thinking?

12. How does Solomon describe the sleep of the wicked – 4:16? What is the point?
13. What is the diet of those who walk in evil – 4:17? What lessons should we learn?
14. In contrast to the path of evil, what path is described in verse 18? How is it described? In what sense is this true?
15. How does the path of the wicked contrast to the path of the just – 4:19? What effect does darkness have in their lives?
16. How many paths has Solomon described for people to choose from? Why only this number? Where else are similar points made in Scripture?
17. Once again, what does Solomon urge his son to do in verses 20-22? Why?
18. Why is the condition of the heart important – 4:23? Explain the point.
19. Where else is the point of verse 23 taught in Scripture?
20. **Application:** How does verse 23 explain the evil that people often commit? What application should we make for our own lives?

21. What does Solomon teach about our speech in 4:24? What applications need to be made to modern society?

22. What must we do, according to verses 25-27, in order to make sure that we remain on the proper path in life? Explain the point.

## Assignments on Proverbs 5

Please read Proverbs 5 and answer the following questions.

1. Read Proverbs chapter 5 and state the main theme discussed.
2. What advice does Solomon give to his son as he begins the discussion? What benefit will this be to him – 5:1,2?
3. What danger does Solomon warn his son about beginning in 5:3? Explain the significance of the oil and the honey.
4. In contrast to verse 3, what is the end result of the immoral woman – verse 4? Explain the significance of the wormwood.
5. Where do her feet lead – verse 5? Explain the point.
6. What characterizes the path that she walks – 5:6? What should a man learn?
7. What solution does Solomon give his son to deal with this problem – verses 7,8?
8. List and explain 3 **passages** elsewhere that show the importance of avoiding fornication.

9. **Application:** Explain how the principles of this context should be applied and how these principles would help in dealing with the problem.

10. What consequences would follow to one who does not avoid this evil – 5:9?

11. What happens to the wealth and the work of one who pursues an immoral woman – verse 10? Give examples to illustrate.

12. What is the end result of disregarding this teaching – verse 11?

13. When a young man gives in to seduction, how does he view the teaching he has received about morality – 5:12,13?

14. Explain the significance in 5:14 of the reference to the midst of the assembly and congregation. Does the fact that a person participates in spiritual activities and appears to be upright guarantee protection against sexual immorality? Explain.

15. Explain the illustration used in verse 15. How does this apply to the discussion about sexual immorality?

16. How do verses 16 and 17 contrast to verse 15? Again, explain the illustration.

17. What practice will help a man avoid immorality – 5:18?

18. How does Solomon describe the beauty of marital love as compared to immorality in verses 19,20?

19. List other **passages** that show the propriety of the sexual relationship in marriage in contrast to outside marriage.

20. **Special assignment:** According to the context, should a couple reserve only the ultimate union for marriage, or is there more that should also be reserved for marriage? Explain the significance to immoral conduct.

21. What reason is given in 5:21 for practicing moral uprightness?

22. What consequences of immorality are described further in verses 22,23?

23. **Application:** Suppose a young unmarried couple confides to you that they are strongly attracted to one another physically and it is hard for them to remain pure. List several practical suggestions based on our study that would help them.

## Assignments on Proverbs 6

Please read Proverbs 6 and answer the following questions.

1. **Define** surety. List other Scriptures about it.

2. What problems can be caused by agreeing to be surety for another person? Give some examples. (Think: Is Solomon saying that becoming surety is sinful? Explain.)

3. What advice does Solomon give to those who have agreed to be surety – 6:3-5? How might this solve the problem?

4. **Define** “sluggard” and “slothful.” Where does Solomon say a lazy person should go to learn important lessons – 6:6-8?

5. <b>Application:</b> Explain some lessons a lazy man could learn from studying ants.
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6. Instead of working, what does a lazy person prefer to do – verses 9-11? What consequences will come as a result? Explain.

7. What are some characteristics of a worthless or perverse man – 6:12-15?

8. What consequences will come as a result? Give examples.

9. Define abomination. List and explain 3 *passages* that show God hates evil.

10. List the 7 abominations of 6:16-19, and explain the meaning of each in your own words. For each of these 7 abominations, list a scripture elsewhere that discusses it.

11. To what subject does Solomon return beginning in 6:20? Whose responsibility is it to instruct children?

12. In what way do the instructions of parents benefit the children according to 6:21-23? Are command keeping and reproofs good or bad? Explain.

13. To what subject does Solomon return beginning in verse 24? What method does an evil woman use to seduce a man according to verse 24? Give examples.

14. What other means may an evil woman use to allure a man according to 6:25? Give examples.

15. **Application: Define** lust. Many people see no harm in enjoying thoughts of illicit intimacy (such as in entertainment, pornography, etc.) so long as one does not actually do anything wrong. What can we learn about this from the instructions here and elsewhere?

16. How does Solomon describe the consequences of adultery in verse 26? Explain.

17. What illustrations are used to demonstrate the danger of adultery in 6:27-29? Explain them. What lessons should we learn?

18. How do people view stealing according to verses 30,31? Yet what consequences may it have? How does this relate to the discussion of adultery?

19. So, what consequences of adultery are described in 6:32,33?

20. What other concern can adultery lead to according to verses 34,35? What lessons should a young man learn?

## Assignments on Proverbs 7

Please read Proverbs 7 and answer the following questions.

1. What does Solomon tell his son about the value of his commandments in 7:1-4?
  2. What is the significance of referring to the law as the apple of one's eye? What does it mean to say that wisdom is one's sister?
  3. What danger does Solomon discuss again in 7:5ff? What means does she use to seduce?
  4. How does Solomon describe the seduction of a young man beginning in 7:6? (Think: In contrast to Solomon's description, how would modern entertainment treat such a story?)
  5. What can we learn from the circumstances under which the young man passes by the woman's home – verses 7-9? What kind of young man was he? What time of day was it?
  6. How is the woman described in 7:10? What is the significance of the crafty heart?
7. **Application:** How is the clothing of the seductress described in verse 10? What should godly women learn? If such clothing becomes the fashion, what should godly women do?
8. How is the woman described in 7:11,12? List **passages** showing how a godly woman should be rather than loud and rebellious? What should godly men and women learn?
  9. What is the significance of saying that she refuses to stay at home? How does this differ from the Bible teaching about a godly woman?
  10. How does she greet the young man – 7:13-15? What can we learn about the manner in which she expresses her affection?

11. What is the significance of the fact that she said she has paid her vows? What does this show about the nature of her religion?

12. How does the seductress describe her bed in 7:16,17? What is her point?

13. What proposition does she make in 7:18? How does her concept of love compare to the biblical meaning?

14. Where is her husband – verse 19? Why does she say this? What does this tell you about her right to enter into the relationship that she suggests?

15. What additional information does she give in 7:20? What is her point?

16. **Application:** What similarities exist between the efforts of the seductress and the concept of so-called safe sex? What assurance do advocates of safe sex attempt to give?

17. According to verses 21,22, what effect do her efforts to seduce have on the young man? How does Solomon illustrate his decision to go in verse 22?

18. How are the consequences described in 7:23? Explain the illustrations.

19. So, what guidance does Solomon give regarding such conduct in verses 24,25?

20. How does Solomon describe in 7:26 those who give in to seduction? What is the significance of the reference to strong men? Can you give examples?

21. What is the final consequence according to verse 27?

## Assignments on Proverbs 8

Please read Proverbs 8 and answer the following questions.

1. **Special Assignment:** As we study through chapter 8, make a list of the characteristics of wisdom: what it is and what it does.

2. Where does wisdom speak and lift up her voice – 8:1-4? To whom does she call?

3. What does the call of wisdom teach us about spreading the gospel? Whom should we teach? What limit should there be on those who are subject to the teaching of God's word?

4. Describe the kinds of things that wisdom says she speaks – 8:5-8. What kinds of things does she not speak?

5. What conclusions can we reach about those who would disagree or contradict the wisdom found in the word of God?

6. How do verses 10,11 describe the value of wisdom? What lesson should we learn?

7. What other qualities come closely associated with wisdom – 8:12? Explain these terms and why they are important.

8. If we fear the Lord, what will we hate – 8:13? Is it proper for Christians to hate? Explain.

9. What benefits does wisdom provide according to 8:14? How can these benefits help us?

10. Who needs wisdom according to verses 15,16? How would wisdom benefit these people, and how does a society suffer when wisdom is lacking with these people?

11. **Application:** What does wisdom promise in 8:17? Explain the application to us.

12. What blessings does wisdom give according to 8:18,19? Explain and give examples.

13. What characterizes wisdom according to 8:20,21? How would this benefit us?

14. What does 8:22,23 teach us about the history of wisdom? What lesson should we learn? (Think: Some have claimed this proves that wisdom here is a reference to Jesus Christ. What evidence exists for such a viewpoint?)

15. List the things that God made according to 8:24-31.

16. List other **passages** that describe the wisdom of God demonstrated in creation.

17. **Special Assignment:** Explain why wisdom was especially important in the context of the creation. How does the creation demonstrate the wisdom of God?

18. What lesson should the history of wisdom teach us – 8:32,33? Explain.

19. Understanding the value of wisdom, what should we do – 8:34,35? What blessings can they give us?

20. On the other hand, what does wisdom affirm about those who reject her – 8:36?

21. **Application:** Can you think of an instance in your own life when you needed wisdom but lacked it? Please describe briefly.

## Assignments on Proverbs 9

Please read Proverbs 9 and answer the following questions.

1. What is wisdom described as doing in 9:1,2? Explain what is pictured in the context.

2. How does she extend invitations – 9:3?

3. Who is invited to partake of her feast – 9:4,5? So what does the feast represent?

4. What benefit will people receive who participate – 9:6?

5. **Application:** What lessons can we learn about man's free will power to choose and how God instructs people in His will? Does God force people to listen and learn His will? If we want to benefit, what must we do?

6. What happens when you reprove a scoffer or a wicked man – 9:7,8?

7. What is a scoffer? Why do such people respond in this way?

8. How do wise and upright people respond to rebuke and instruction – 9:8,9? Why do they respond in this way?

9. List other **passages** about rebuking sin.

10. **Case Study:** A friend says: "It's not Christ-like to criticize other people's religious beliefs. If people sincerely believe a thing, why should other people tell them it's wrong? Just preach the gospel but let other people alone." What can we learn about such views in Proverbs?

11. From what source can we get wisdom – 9:10? Where else does the teach book this?

12. What benefits can we receive if we participate in the feast wisdom offers – 9:11?

13. Who ultimately benefits if you participate in the feast wisdom offers – 9:12? If you scoff and reject wisdom, who ultimately suffers the consequences? Explain.

14. **Application:** Can other people help you gain wisdom? Who ultimately determines the wisdom that you obtain? What lessons should we learn?

15. What other woman has a feast to offer? How is she described – 9:13?

16. How does she invite people to participate in her feast – 9:14,15?

17. **Application:** What can we learn from the fact that evil and foolishness invite and entice people to participate? Can Satan compel people against their will to be evil?

18. How does evil appeal to some people – 9:17? Explain.

19. Explain the concept of stolen waters in contrast to drinking from one's own fountain in sexual matters as discussed in chapter 5. What lesson should we learn?

20. What happens to those who accept the foolish woman's invitation – 9:18?

21. **Application:** What lesson can we learn from the fact that there are 2 feasts offered in this chapter? When God offers a blessing, what can we expect Satan to do?

## Assignments on Proverbs 10

Please read Proverbs 10 and answer the following questions.

1. How does the conduct of the child affect the parents – 10:1? List other **passages** about parents raising their children.
2. How does the Lord distinguish the righteous from the wicked – 10:2,3?
3. How is diligence better than laziness – 10:4,5? What should children learn?
4. Explain the contrast between the memory of the righteous and that of the wicked – 10:7. Why is this so?
5. How does a truly wise man view God's commands – 10:8? **Define** "prate." How does this differ from wisdom?
6. How does integrity compare to perverseness – 10:9? How does this happen and why does it matter?
7. Explain how the speech of righteous people becomes a source of life – 10:11. (Think: In what sense does winking with the eye cause trouble – 10:10?)
8. How does love cover sin – 10:12? Does this mean we should simply overlook the sins of others? List other **passages** that help. (Think: List ways that hatred stirs up strife.)
9. How does the speech of wise people differ from that of foolish people according to 10:13,14? Explain why a fool needs a rod for his back.
10. How is the wealth of a rich man viewed in contrast to the poverty of a poor man – 10:15? But what is more important than wealth or poverty – verse 16?

11. According to 10:17, why is it important to have the proper attitude toward instruction as compared to reproof? How does this differ from the way people often think?

12. In what sense is hiding hatred a form of lying – 10:18? Why is slander foolish?

13. **Application:** Explain why there is danger in being a person who speaks a lot – 10:19. Is the solution to simply remain quiet – 10:20,21? Explain.

14. What can we know to be true about the blessings that God gives – 10:22? How does this differ from the way people sometimes treat one another?

15. How do foolish people often view sin – 10:23? Explain why this is a mistake.

16. What are some fears that wicked people may have that are likely to come true – 10:24,25? What are some desires that righteous people have that are likely to come true?

17. How does a lazy man's conduct affect those around him – 10:26? Give examples.

18. What blessings are described for righteous people in verses 27-29 as compared to the results of wickedness?

19. **Application:** List other **passages** that talk about inhabiting or inheriting the land or the earth, especially in the Old Testament. Explain how this was a special promise in the Old Testament, and how it would apply to us today.

20. How does the speech of the righteous compare to that of the wicked – 10:31,32? Give examples.

## Assignments on Proverbs 11

Please read Proverbs 11 and answer the following questions.

1. Explain the significance of a false balance as compared to a just weight – 11:1. List other **passages** that teach the importance of honesty in business dealings.

2. List some ways that pride can lead to shame – 11:2. Explain why humility is wise.

3. How does Solomon contrast the nature of the upright person as compared to the unfaithful person in 11:3? Explain why this is so.

4. What advantage does righteousness have over riches according to 11:4? Give examples that illustrate this limitation of what wealth can accomplish.

5. **Application:** Give examples in which unfaithfulness may cause a person to be ensnared by their own lusts – 11:5,6. How does righteousness deliver people from these problems?

6. Do wicked people have hopes and expectations – 11:7,8? List some they might have. What does Solomon say happens to these hopes and expectations?

7. What are some ways that people may harm others by their speech – 11:9? How can righteousness deliver people from such problems?

8. **Application:** How should the people of a city view those who are righteous as compared to those who are wicked? List some ways that upright people are a blessing to a society as compared to the harm caused by wicked people.

9. How does wisdom or the lack thereof affect how people use private information – 11:12,13? Is it always wrong to reveal such information about other people? Explain.

10. What advantage does obtaining advice from others have – 11:14? Explain some ways this may be true. (Note: See 6:14 for a discussion about surety – 11:15.)

11. What kind of woman truly deserves to be honored – 11:16? How does this contrast to the way people often view women?

12. Who ultimately benefits when a person is merciful or suffers if he is cruel – 11:17? Explain some ways this may be true.

13. Explain some ways in which wickedness is deceptive – 11:18-20? How does this contrast to the reward of righteousness?

14. Explain some ways that wicked people may try to work together to avoid punishment – 11:21. What is the proper way to be delivered from punishment?

15. How is the loveliness or beauty of some women illustrated in 11:22? Explain.

16. What characterizes the desires of righteous people – 11:23? Regardless of the desires of wicked people, what can they expect?

17. **Special Assignment:** Who benefits when a person is generous and who suffers when a person is stingy according to 11:24-26? Explain the sense in which this is true and give examples.

18. List other **passages** about the danger of trusting in riches – 11:28. State some reasons why riches cannot be trusted.

19. What are some ways in which wicked people sometimes cause trouble for their own families – 11:29? What consequences often follow?

20. What is one of the most important ways that righteous people can be a blessing to other people – 11:30? List other **passages** about the importance of leading other people to the truth.

21. What are some ways that righteous people are sometimes recompensed even on the earth in contrast to sinners – 11:31?

## Assignments on Proverbs 12

Please read Proverbs 12 and answer the following questions.

1. Why should instruction be valued – 12:1? What does this mean about reproof?
2. What are wicked devices – 12:2? How does this relate to our relationship to God?
3. What benefit does righteousness have that wickedness does not have according to 12:3 & 7? In what sense is this true?

4. **Application:** What effect can a wife have for good or bad on her husband – 12:4? What should we learn about choosing a spouse and how we should treat our spouses?

5. How does the thinking of good people compare to that of evil people according to 12:5? Explain the importance of this principle.

6. How does the speech of good people compare to that of evil people according to 12:6? Give examples.

7. How should people view a man of wisdom as compared to a man of a perverse heart – 12:8? How does this compare to the views of our society?

8. What is more important according to 12:9 than whether or not one is honored or esteemed in the eyes of others? Think of examples that illustrate the point.

9. **Special Assignment:** What does 12:10 teach about attitudes towards animals? List other **passages** about our relationship with animals, then give examples of applications.

10. What benefit comes from hard work – 12:11,12? What lesson should be learned about pursuing goals of relatively little value?

11. What can cause a snare to the wicked person according to 12:13,14? How does this contrast to the results of the speech of good men?

12. How does a fool view his conduct – 12:15? Is this the correct view? What should he do instead? Give examples.

13. What kind of conduct is foolish according to 12:16? List other *passages* about controlling our anger.

14. How is our character revealed in our speech according to 12:17,18? What consequences can our speech have?

15. Truthful speech leads to what consequences – 12:19,20? When people who devise evil speak, what is the result?

16. What principles that we have studied in the book of Proverbs are stated again in 12:21,22?

17. **Application:** Explain and give examples that show when it is wise to conceal knowledge rather than to proclaim everything that we think – 12:23.

18. What are the consequences of laziness versus diligence according to 12:24?

19. What benefit can good words accomplish according to 12:25? What should we learn?

20. Why is the influence that friends have on one another important – 12:26? List other *passages* about the importance of influence.

21. How is the lazy man described in 12:27? Explain.

## Assignments on Proverbs 13

Please read Proverbs 13 and answer the following questions.

1. What will wisdom lead a child to do – 13:1? Give examples of influences that may lead a child not to listen.

2. In what ways may a man benefit from his own speech – 13:2? On what does an unfaithful man feed?

3. What should a person do with his speech – 13:3? What benefits does it produce?

4. What consequence does laziness lead to as compared to diligence – 13:4?

5. How should we view lying – 13:5? How does this contrast to wicked men? (We have seen verses like verse 6 several times before.)

6. Explain how one can be rich yet have nothing, and another can be poor and yet have great riches – 13:7.

7. What may a rich man be required to use his riches for – 13:8? What advantage does a poor man have?

8. What do you think the words “light” and “lamp ” refer to in 13:9? Explain the verse.

9. What problem does pride cause according to 13:10? Explain how this can happen. What can lead to wisdom instead?

10. How does dishonest wealth contrast to honest labor in 13:11? Explain the point.

11. How does the pain of waiting for a desired event compare to the joy of receiving it – 13:12?

12. How should we view God’s word according to 13:13? What consequence follows if we do not?

13. **Application:** What blessings do wisdom and understanding lead to according to 13:14,15? List some examples that illustrate the difficulties that may come to those who are unfaithful.

14. Explain how a prudent man acts – 13:16. What does a foolish person do instead?

15. Explain how a wicked messenger can cause trouble in contrast to a faithful ambassador – 13:17.

16. What are the advantages of correction and reproof according to 13:18? Explain.

17. What benefit comes from fulfilling a desire – 13:19? How do foolish people act instead?

18. **Application:** What lessons should we learn about choice of companions according to 13:20? List other **passages** and give examples to illustrate the lesson.

19. Explain what inheritance a good man leaves for future generations – 13:22. What happens instead to the wealth of sinners? Explain how this is so. (Verse 21 is similar to other verses we have already studied.)

20. How might a poor man meet his needs – 13:23? What happens instead because of injustice?

21. **Application:** How should parents train their children according 13:24? List other similar **passages**. Summarize what the Bible teaches about spanking.

22. What advantages does righteousness have over wickedness according to 13:25?

## Assignments on Proverbs 14

Please read Proverbs 14 and answer the following questions.

1. How does a wise woman differ from a foolish woman according to 14:1? Give examples of ways this is true.

2. What application would 14:2 have to those who deny that obedience to God is essential in order to be acceptable before Him?

3. How does the effect of foolish speech compare to the effect of wise speech – 14:3?

4. Explain the illustration of the oxen in 14:4. List some other applications where the same principle is true.

5. What distinction does 14:5 make between witnesses?

6. **Application:** What happens when a scoffer attempts to find wisdom – 14:6? What advantage does a wise man have? Give some examples that illustrate this difference.

7. **Application:** What applications can we make from 14:7 regarding seeking advice from people who have demonstrated that they do not properly understand the word of God?

8. How do foolish people view sin – 14:8,9? Give some examples from real life.

9. What can one person never fully appreciate about another person – 14:10?

10. Though wicked people may appear to prosper in this life, what can we be sure will be the end result – 14:11?

11. **Application:** According to 14:12, what is the danger of following human wisdom? Give some examples that illustrate how people often follow what seems right to them rather than following the word of God.

12. What may be true of people even as they laugh and appear happy – 14:13?

13. Where does backsliding begin and what is the consequence – 14:14?

14. As compared to a simple person, how does the wise person respond differently to the things he hears– 14:15? Explain why this is especially important in spiritual matters.

15. Why is it that a foolish person often cannot be convinced to change his ways – 14:16? How does this differ from a wise person?

16. What problems are caused by quick temper – 14:17? Give illustrations. (Note: Verse 18 teaches principles we have studied a number of other places.)

17. How will evil people sooner or later treat good people – 14:19? How does this differ from the way good people are often treated in this life?

18. How do people often treat those who are poor as compared to those who are rich – 14:20,21? Explain why this is so.

19. How does devising good differ from devising evil – 14:22? Is it enough to want to do good, or is more required in order to actually do good? Explain the lessons we can learn.

20. What sometimes hinders people from laboring profitably – 14:23? What lesson should we learn?

21. Are riches always bad – 14:24? Who knows how to properly benefit from riches? Explain some ways this may be true.

22. What benefit can speaking the truth have according to 14:25? In what ways can this be true especially spiritually?

23. Describe some blessings that come from properly serving the Lord – 14:26,27.

24. What does a king need to have honor and avoid a downfall – 14:28? Explain.

25. What does 14:29 teach about anger? Is anger always sinful? What is the danger of anger?

26. **Define** envy. What effect does it have according to 14:30? List some things for which people sometimes envy others.

27. How should we treat the poor according to 14:31? What is the consequence of failing to do so? Explain.

28. What is the effect of foolishness and wickedness according to 14:32,33? What is the effect of righteousness and wisdom? Explain the meaning.

29. **Application:** What is the effect of righteousness or sin upon a nation – 14:34? List some Bible examples that illustrate the point. What lesson should we learn for today?

30. How should rulers treat those who are wise as compared to those who cause shame – 14:35? Do rulers always follow this rule? What should we learn?

## Assignments on Proverbs 15

Please read Proverbs 15 and answer the following questions.

1. Why is a soft answer important – 15:1?

2. **Application:** Does verse 1 mean we should never rebuke sin or speak firmly? Explain and give examples of the proper application of the principle.

3. Give examples of right use of knowledge (vs. foolish speech). Note 15:2,4, & 7.

4. What does God observe? Note 15:3 and 15:11. What should we learn?

5. What attitude should a child have toward his parents' instructions – 15:5?

6. What reward does wickedness lead to – 15:6? So, what kind of treasure does righteousness bring to a house?

7. **Special Assignment:** How does God view the worship of the wicked as compared to the prayers of the upright – 15:8,9? Explain some lessons we can learn about worship and give examples. (See also 15:26 and 15:29.)

8. What consequences come to those who forsake the way and hate correction – 15:10?

9. How does a scoffer respond to correction – 15:12? Give examples.

10. How do cheerfulness and sorrow affect a person? Note 15:13,15,30.

11. How is a person's character demonstrated by what he feeds upon – i.e., the interests he pursues – 15:14? Give examples.

12. What is more important than wealth/treasure – 15:16,17,27? Explain why.

13. What problems are caused by being quick-tempered (vs. slow to anger) – 15:18?

14. What problem does a lazy man face (vs. an upright man) – 15:19? Explain.

15. How does a child bless or trouble his parents – 15:20?

16. How does a person who lacks discernment view foolishness – 15:21? How does our society illustrate this truth? (Note that the lesson of verse 22 has already been studied in 11:14.)

17. What is meant by a word spoken in due season – 15:23? How can this cause joy?

18. In what direction does the life of a wise man lead – 15:24? Explain.

19. What advantage does a widow have over a proud person – 15:25? Why?

20. <b>Application:</b> What lessons can we learn about speech from 15:28? Give some examples that apply the principle.
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21. What is the benefit of heeding reproof as compared to disdainful instruction – 15:31,32?

22. What is necessary in order to receive instruction in true wisdom, and what is necessary in order to receive true honor – 15:33? Is this what our society generally believes? Explain.

## Assignments on Proverbs 16

Please read Proverbs 16 and answer the following questions.

1. What do we learn about the plans that people make according to 16:1 and also verses 9,33? List examples of people whose plans failed because God had other plans.

2. How does the way that people see themselves often differ from the way the Lord sees them – 16:2? Describe some methods people often use to try to justify themselves.

3. What does it mean to commit our works to the Lord – 16:3. How does it benefit?

4. What do we learn about God's work as Creator according to 16:4? In what sense is it true that He made the wicked for the day of doom?

5. How does God view pride – 16:5? Describe some ways that proud people sometimes plot to get their own way and still avoid suffering the consequences.

6. Name 2 things that are necessary for our atonement according to 16:6. Explain how both of these work together. What is also required of man?

7. What does God do for those who please Him according to 16:7? Give some Bible examples. Is this always true, or are there exceptions?

8. What characterizes the speech of rulers according to 16:10? What responsibility does this place on them? What lesson should the rulers learn from this?

9. **Application:** What lesson should rulers learn according to 16:12? List some examples of ways in which this applies to rulers in our society today.

10. What should kings love and delight in – 16:13? Again, what application does this have to rulers today?

11. How is the wrath of the ruler compared to his favor – 16:14,15? What application does this have to us as citizens? (Note: 16:8,11,16 restate principles we have already studied.)

12. What path do the upright follow – 16:17? What blessing do they receive?

13. **Application:** Give some Bible examples of people whose pride led to a downfall – 16:18,19. What lessons should we learn?

14. What blessings come from trusting in God and heeding His word – 16:20? How does this relate to pride as compared to humility in verses 18,19?

15. What are the benefits of wisdom and sweetness of lips according to 16:21 and verse 23? Explain in what sense this is true.

16. What does it take to correct a fool – 16:22? What advantage does a person with understanding have? Explain how folly corrects a fool.

17. What are the benefits of pleasant words – 16:24? How can they properly be compared to a honeycomb? (Note that 16:25 is the same as 14:12, which we have already studied.)

18. In what way can a man's appetite benefit him – 16:26? Explain.

19. What characterizes ungodly people according to 16:27? What are the consequences – 16:28? Give examples of this kind of conduct.

20. How does a violent man treat his neighbor – 16:29? Does 16:30 relate to 16:29? Explain.

21. **Application:** What is the significance of silver hair – 16:31? Under what circumstances can it be an honor? What lessons should be learned by older people and by younger people?

22. **Application:** What is more difficult and more important than being a great warrior and conquer – 16:32? What lessons should we learn about self-control?

## Assignments on Proverbs 17

Please read Proverbs 17 and answer the following questions.

1. What is more important than material prosperity according to 17:1? How does wealth often lead to strife?

2. What advantage might a servant have over one who is born into a family – 17:2? What lessons should we learn?

3. Explain how the refining of silver and gold illustrates how God deals with our hearts – 17:3. Notice 1 Peter 1:7.

4. How does our service to God influence what we are willing to listen to – 17:4? Give examples to explain the point.

5. How should we view the suffering of others, especially those who are poor, according to 17:5? What lessons should we learn?

6. What family relationships are described in 17:6, and how should we view them? Explain some ways that these concepts contrast with the views of a society that devalues family relationships like ours does.

7. What kinds of speech are unbecoming according to 17:7? Explain why each of these examples of speech is unbecoming. (Note that verse 8 can refer either to a gift or a bribe, depending on translation. What might be the meaning?)

8. **Special Assignment:** What does it mean to cover a transgression – 17:9? List other **passages** about covering sin. Explain how this is an act of love. What consequences may follow from repeating a matter? How does this verse harmonize with passages that say to rebuke error?

9. What difference exists between how a wise man learns and a fool learns according to 17:10? What should you and I learn?

10. **Define** rebellion. What does it take to restrain a rebel – 17:11? Explain.

11. What should be preferred over the foolishness of a fool – 17:12. Explain the illustration.

12. Give examples that illustrate how people sometimes return evil for good – 17:13. List other **passages** showing what Christians should do instead.

13. What is the best time to stop a quarrel – 17:14? How does Solomon illustrate the point?

14. **Application:** Give examples in which people may be guilty of justifying the wicked or condemning the righteous – 17:15. How does God view both kinds of conduct?

15. What is wasted on a fool according to 17:16? Explain why this is so.
16. What should characterize the relationship of friends and of brothers – 17:17? How might people fail in these relationships? (Note that 17:18 is like verses already discussed.)
17. Explain how wickedness and strife often go together – 17:19. Give examples. Does this mean Christians should not speak out when others sin?
18. What does 17:20 teach us about evil thoughts and evil speech? In what sense are these things true? (Note that the teaching of 17:21 repeats what we have often studied earlier.)
19. What can serve like a medicine according to 17:22? What dries the bones instead? Give examples.
20. List other *passages* about bribes. What wicked consequences come from accepting a bribe – 17:23? (What are the possible meanings of 17:24?)
21. What are ways people sometimes punish the righteous or cause problems for rulers who do right – 17:26? (Note that we have studied the principle of 17:25 in earlier verses.)
22. **Application:** What are some advantages of holding one's peace according to 17:27,28? Give examples in which people sometimes get in trouble from talking too much.

## Assignments on Proverbs 18

Please read Proverbs 18 and answer the following questions.

1. What does an unwise man do according to 18:1? What motivates him? (Think: From what is it improper to isolate oneself?)

2. To a foolish person, what is more important than gaining understanding – 18:2? Give examples that illustrate this kind of person.

3. What are associated with wickedness and dishonor – 18:3? How might this happen?

4. The speech and wisdom of a man are compared to what – 18:4? Explain.

5. **Define** partiality. How do people sometimes show partiality to those who are wicked or give unfair judgments against those who are righteous – 18:5?

6. What errors does a foolish person make with his speech – 18:6? Why is this true? What consequences follow from his speech – 18:7?

7. How does Solomon illustrate the words of a talebearer – 18:8? What should we learn?

8. Explain how a lazy man is like a destroyer – 18:9.

<p>9. <b>Application:</b> How does the protection of the righteous compare to that of a rich man – 18:10,11? What are some advantages the righteous man would have over the rich man?</p>
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10. What problem does Solomon describe in 18:13? Why is this a problem? Give examples as illustrations. (Note that 18:12 is the same as other proverbs we have studied.)

11. How does a person's attitude affect his health – 18:14? Explain.

12. What does a wise person want to acquire – 18:15? So why do many people not obtain true knowledge?

13. What value can giving gifts have – 18:16? Explain some ways the giver is blessed by the gifts that he gives.

14. **Special Assignment:** What principle does 18:17 teach us about controversy? How does verse 17 connect to verse 13?

15. What is involved in casting lots – 18:18? What benefit could it have in resolving controversy?

16. How does Solomon illustrate the problems that conflict can cause – 18:19? What should this mean to us?

17. What problems can speech cause – 18:20,21? Give examples. How does verse 20 relate?

18. **Application:** List several lessons that husbands should learn from 18:22. How should we apply this teaching?

19. How does prosperity affect the way people treat other people – 18:23? Why?

20. What does friendship require of us – 18:24? What should we learn about how to treat our friends?

## Assignments on Proverbs 19

Please read Proverbs 19 and answer the following questions.

1. What does it mean to hasten with the feet – 19:2? How does this lead to sin? How does it relate to the lack of knowledge? (Note: We have seen before the principle taught in 19:1.)

2. When people suffer the consequences of their sins, what do they often do – 19:3? Think of examples that illustrate the point.

3. How are wealthy people often treated differently from poor people – 19:4 and 7? What does this teach us about friendship?

4. What kind of conduct leads to sure punishment – 19:5 and 9? In contrast, what do people in our society often think when they participate in this conduct?

5. How do people act towards those who give gifts – 19:6? Is this always bad or always good? Explain. (Note: Verse 8 expresses ideas we have studied many times before.)

6. What two things are not fitting – 19:10? Why are these things unsuitable?

7. What will discretion teach us about our reaction when we have been wronged – 19:11? How should we harmonize this with passages that teach us to speak out against sin?

8. How are the reactions of a ruler illustrated in 19:12? What should we do as a result?

9. What problems may we find in our family relationships – 19:13? Does this mean a wife should never express her views?

10. **Application:** In contrast to verse 13, how are wives viewed in 19:14? List some specific lessons that husbands should learn.

11. How does a lazy person act – 19:15? What are the consequences?

12. What is the benefit of obedience – 19:16? What is the consequence of carelessness? What should we learn about neglect as compared to diligence?

13. How does God react to people who care for those who are poor – 19:17? How does this differ from the way people often think?

14. **Case Study:** Some people say that parents should not train their children in religion but should allow them to choose their own beliefs as they grow up. Explain the principles of 19:18 and apply them to this philosophy.

15. What will happen to a man given to anger – 19:19? What problem does he create for those around him? (Note: We have studied elsewhere the principles taught in 19:20,21.)

16. What quality is admired in 19:22? Toward whom should we show kindness?

17. What blessings come to those who fear the Lord 19:23?

18. How lazy are some people according to 19:24? How does this relate to 2 Thessalonians 3:10?

19. What does 19:25 teach about the way people learn lessons? What should we learn?

20. What does 19:26 teach about how children treat their parents? Explain how this applies in a society of rebellion and family violence. (Note: 19:27 is like verses already studied.)

21. How does 19:28 describe those who are false witnesses or wicked? Explain how these statements are true.

22. What treatment should fools and scoffers expect according to 19:29.

## Assignments on Proverbs 20

Please read Proverbs 20 and answer the following questions.

1. **Application:** What problems do wine and strong drink cause according to 20:1? Describe examples of ways they often lead people astray.

2. How do honorable men and foolish men differ in how they view quarreling – 20:3? Discuss the circumstances under which one should or should not continue a disagreement.

3. Explain the relationship between laziness, plowing, and harvesting – 20:4 and 13. How does this apply in our service to God? (Note: 20:2,5 are like verses already studied.)

4. How do most people view their goodness – 20:6 and 9? How many people really are faithful? Explain. (Note that we studied the principle of 20:8,10,16,23 before.)

5. **Special Assignment:** Based on these proverbs, how should we expect people to react when they first hear the gospel? Does this mean a person can never be pure from sin? Explain. (Think: Does this mean that people have an inherited sin nature that compels them to sin?)

6. How should children view godly parents – 20:7? How are righteous parents a blessing?

7. How should we judge the character of a child – 20:11? Explain the point. Does this principle apply to older people as well?

8. What is the origin of the senses of hearing and seeing – 20:12? If this is true, what should we learn about how we should use our eyes and ears?

9. How do people often treat a product that they really want to buy – 20:14? How would this contrast to what sellers often do? Explain how this relates to honesty in business.

10. How should one value knowledge – 20:15? What does this mean about speech?

11. What are the consequences of gaining possessions by means of deceit – 20:17? What is the significance of the sweetness and of the gravel?

12. 20:18 again discusses the value of receiving counsel and advice from others, but here is applied to waging war. What lesson should we learn today?

13. How does a talebearer act – 20:19? How should we respond to such a person? How would such a response help resolve the problem?

14. What lesson should children learn about respect for their parents in 20:20? How would this principle benefit our society?

15. What is meant by an inheritance that was gained hastily – 20:21? Explain why it might not be blessed.

16. Instead of taking personal vengeance, what should we do – 20:22? List other *passages* about taking vengeance.

17. In what sense are man's steps of the Lord – 20:24? What does this mean about our future conduct? What lesson should we learn?

18. What mistake do people sometimes make regarding their promises or vows – 20:25? How important should our promises be? Give examples of applications.

19. What responsibility do rulers have in dealing with citizens – 20:26 and 28? Why are mercy and truth both important to them?

20. In what sense is a man's spirit the lamp of the Lord – 20:27? How does the ability of God to know our hearts compare to our ability to know the hearts of others?

<p>21. <b>Application:</b> What advantage do young men have, and what advantage do old man have? What lessons should be learned by those who are young and by those who are old?</p>
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22. What benefit can come from blows and stripes – 20:30? What should parents learn about discipline of children?

## Assignments on Proverbs 21

Please read Proverbs 21 and answer the following questions.

1. How does Solomon illustrate God's ability to influence people in 21:1? Explain the illustration. (Think: Does God violate man's free will?)

2. How do people tend to view their own conduct – 21:2? Explain what ultimately determines what is right or wrong.

3. What does God value more than sacrifice – 21:3? Explain how this applies today.

4. How does God view pride and haughtiness – 21:4? How does this compare to how proud people tend to view themselves?

5. How do the effects of diligence compare to the effects of hastiness – 21:5?

6. When people are hasty to get rich, what is one sin they may commit – 21:6?

7. Whom do wicked people seek to harm, but whom ultimately do they destroy – 21:7 and 10? Explain why. (Note that we have studied the principle of 21:8,11 elsewhere.)

<p>8. <b>Application:</b> What would be better than living with a contentious woman – 21:9 and 19? Explain how a contentious woman acts. What lessons should we learn?</p>
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9. What does God do regarding wicked men – 21:12? What assurance does this give us about people who appear in this life to escape the consequences of their evil?

10. What happens to those who refuse to hear the cries of poor people – 21:13? Explain how this may happen. (Note that 21:14 is similar to 18:16, which we already studied.)

11. **Application:** How do righteous people view righteous practices – 21:15? Are people truly good if they view goodness as a burden they wish to avoid? What should we learn?

12. What kind of person is described in 21:17? What are the consequences? Explain how this can happen. (Note that 21:16 repeats a principle that we studied often before.)

13. **Define** ransom. Who serves as a ransom for whom in 21:18? Explain what this could mean.

14. What advantage does a wise man have over a foolish man according to 21:20? What applications does this have, especially spiritually?

15. What advantage does wisdom have over strength according to 21:22? Explain applications, especially spiritually. (Note: 21:21,23,24,28 repeat principles we already studied.)

16. In what sense does a lazy man have desires? What consequences does laziness lead to – 21:25?

17. **Define** covet. In contrast to covetousness, how does the righteous man act – 21:26? (Think: Can a person covet that which already belongs to him? Explain.)

18. **Case Study:** Some people say it does not matter how you worship God so long as you worship Him. Explain the application of 21:27 to this concept. List other such **passages**.

19. What does it mean to harden one's face – 21:29? How does wickedness lead to this condition, and how does righteousness avoid it?

20. How is the overruling power of God described in 21:30,31? What lesson should we learn?

## Assignments on Proverbs 22

Please read Proverbs 22 and answer the following questions.

1. How valuable is a person's good name – 22:1? Explain the meaning and its importance.
2. What do rich people and poor people have in common – 22:2? What should we learn?
3. How does the simple man differ from the prudent man according to 22:3? State some ways this is true, especially in spiritual matters.
4. What blessings come to those who humbly fear the Lord – 22:4? What problems come to those that are perverse – 22:5?
5. **Special Assignment:** What promise does 22:6 give to those who properly train their children? Explain why it is important for parents to believe and apply this principle.
6. What consequence does borrowing lead to – 22:7? Explain why this is true and tell what we should learn. (Note that we elsewhere studied the principles taught in 22:8,9.)
7. What problems does a scoffer cause, and what should we do about it – 22:10? How should we apply this principle today?
8. What kind of person should rulers befriend – 22:11? Do rulers always practice this principle properly? Explain.
9. What will God do for those who have knowledge and with those who speak faithlessly – 22:12? How should we use this principle when wicked people appear to prosper?
10. What excuse does a lazy man use why he cannot work – 22:13? Give examples in which people today sometimes make excuses that are just as foolish.

11. How is an immoral woman illustrated in 22:14? Explain the illustration. Where else have we studied about such women?

12. How do children naturally tend to act, and what solution is required – 22:15? Explain why corporal punishment helps in such situations.

13. What will happen to one who gains wealth by oppressing poor people and seeking the favor of those who are rich – 22:16?

14. What should a person do with words of wisdom – 22:17,18? How would we apply these verses?

15. What can teaching, such as is contained in the book of Proverbs, accomplish for us – 22:19-21? Explain how such teaching can benefit us in our service to God.

16. What does God warn us against doing in 22:22,23? What consequences come if we mistreat such people?

17. **Application:** What kind of person are we warned about in 22:24,25? How should we treat such a person? Explain the importance of principles such as this.

18. What practice are we warned against in 22:26,27? What reason is given to?

19. What is a landmark? Why is it important to respect them – 22:28?

20. What benefits come to one who is diligent in his business – 22:29? Explain why this is usually true.

## Assignments on Proverbs 23

Please read Proverbs 23 and answer the following questions.

1. What principles should a person follow when in the presence of a ruler according to 23:1-3? Explain the consequences.

2. What danger of riches is discussed in 23:4,5? What characteristic of riches are we warned against?

3. **Application:** List other *passages* about the danger of overemphasizing possessions. Explain the lessons we should learn.

4. What should we remember when a miser offers us a meal – 23:6-8? What might be some reasons why he might offer such a meal?

5. Explain the significance of the expression, “as he thinks in his heart, so is he.” What should we learn about the importance of the heart?

6. What is the consequence of trying to speak wisdom to a fool – 23:9? What lessons should we learn? (Note that the principle of verse 12 is discussed in other passages we studied.)

7. Whose property should specifically be respected according to 23:10,11? What reason is given why this should be done? (Think: Why might some people try to get away with mistreating such people as are mentioned here?)

8. **Application:** What reasons are given to justify spanking of children in 23:13,14? Explain how spanking accomplishes these purposes.

9. What characteristics of a child will cause a parent to rejoice – 23:15,16? Explain why.

10. What reasons are given why we should not envy sinners – 23:17-19? What are some ways that people are sometimes guilty of envying sinners?

11. **Application:** How should we treat winebibbers and gluttons – 23:20,21? What reasons are given? List some lessons we should learn?

12. How should we treat parents according to 23:22? How do people sometimes show that they despise an elderly mother?

13. Explain the meaning of buying and selling as used in 23:23. What lessons should we learn?

14. What must a child do in order to give his parents joy – 23:24-26?

15. What is a seductress compared to in 23:27? How does 23:28 explain the meaning?

16. What subject is discussed in 23:29-35?

17. **Application:** Make a list of the problems that alcoholic beverages can cause in the life of the drinker based on these verses. For each one, explain how drinking can cause it.

18. What solution does Solomon give to the drinking problem in 23:31? Think carefully and comment on what this means regarding how we should avoid the problems of alcohol.

19. What is the final outcome of drinking – 23:32? If alcoholic beverages are like a serpent and a viper, how should a Christian treat them?

20. Study carefully 1 Peter 4:1-4. What terms does the passage use that include drinking? **Define** them. How does a Christian properly apply passages such as this?

## Assignments on Proverbs 24

Please read Proverbs 24 and answer the following questions.

1. What are we taught again about our attitude and association with evil people – 24:1,2? What reason is given?

2. What advantage does wisdom have – 24:3,4? How can this be applied spiritually?

3. In what other ways does wisdom have an advantage – 24:5,6? What application does this have spiritually?

4. Why do fools not obtain wisdom – 24:7? In what sense does he not open his mouth in the gate?

5. What aspect of evil is rebuked in 24:8,9? Explain the meaning and give applications.

6. What can we know if a person faints in the face of adversity – 24:10? What can we learn about overcoming hardship and about sympathizing with those who have troubles?

7. What should we do when we know people are facing catastrophe – 24:11,12? Can we excuse ourselves by claiming ignorance?

8. <b>Application:</b> What are some situations in which the people face catastrophe, so it becomes our responsibility to help rescue them?
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9. What is the knowledge of wisdom compared to in 24:13,14? Explain.

10. What warning is given to wicked people in 24:15,16? Why might wicked people be tempted to treat righteous people in this way? What do the verses say will be the result?

11. What attitude should we avoid toward enemies – 24:17,18? What reason is given?
12. Why should we not worry about or envy wicked people – 24:19,20? Why do good people sometimes worry about those who do evil?
13. What kind of people should we avoid according to 24:21,22? Why is this so? What should we learn?
14. What does impartiality in judgment require of us 24:23-25? What are the consequences of rebuking or not rebuking those who are wicked?
15. How does God view those who give a right answer – 24:26? What does this show about those who say that people who rebuke sin are guilty of hate?
16. What do we learn about proper priorities in 24:27? What application can we make in physical and spiritual matters?
17. What principle should we follow regarding testifying against a neighbor – 24:28? Explain the relationship between 24:29 and a similar teaching of Jesus.
18. How does Solomon describe the property of the lazy man – 24:30,31? What problems would these conditions cause?
19. What kind of conduct causes these problems – 24:32,33? What are the consequences – 24:34?

20. **Application:** List some applications we should make regarding laziness both in physical matters and in spiritual matters.

## Assignments on Proverbs 25

Please read Proverbs 25 and answer the following questions.

1. Who spoke these proverbs – 25:1? Who copied them?
2. How does God differ from kings – 25:2? Explain ways this may be so.
3. How is the heart of kings described – 25:3? How may this be important to us?
4. How is a king's throne like silver – 25:4,5? What lessons should rulers learn?

<p>5. <b>Special Assignment:</b> How should we express humility in the presence of great people – 25:6,7? See also verse 27. Where does the New Testament teach a similar idea? What applications should we make?</p>
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6. What does Solomon teach about making light and frivolous court suits – 25:8? What should we learn about many of the court suits of our own day?

7. What should we do when we have a difference with a neighbor – 25:9,10? What reason does Solomon give?

8. How does Solomon illustrate the value of proper speech in 25:11? Give examples that illustrate speaking fitly as compared to not speaking fitly.

9. How does Solomon illustrate a wise rebuker in 25:12? So, what is the responsibility of one who gives the rebuke and of one who receives a rebuke?

10. Explain what a faithful messenger is like – 25:13. What application should we make, especially to gospel teaching?

11. Explain what a boaster is like – 25:14. Give examples of people who may be guilty.

12. What advice is given in 25:15 about persuading a ruler? Why is this good advice?

13. How should one eat honey – 25:16? What application should we make?

14. What advice does Solomon give about visiting – 25:17? What should we learn?

15. How does Solomon illustrate a man who bears false witness – 25:18? Explain.

16. What is an unfaithful man like – 25:19? What does this mean about those in whom we put our trust and about our own trustworthiness?

17. What mistake should we avoid when people have a heavy heart – 25:20? How does Solomon illustrate it?

18. **Special Assignment:** How should we treat an enemy according to 25:21,22? Where does the New Testament teach this? Explain applications and lessons for us.

19. How does Solomon illustrate the consequences of backbiting – 25:23? Give examples to illustrate how this can happen. (Note that 25:24 is the same as we studied in 21:9.)

20. Explain how Solomon illustrates good news in 25:25.

21. What danger should we avoid according to 25:26? How does Solomon illustrate it? Give examples of how this may happen.

22. A person without self-control is like what – 25:28? Give examples that demonstrate the illustration.

## Assignments on Proverbs 26

Please read Proverbs 26 and answer the following questions.

1. How does Solomon illustrate giving honor to fools – 26:1 and 8? Are spiritually foolish people ever honored in our society? Explain.

2. What does Solomon say about an unfounded curse – 26:2? Should we fear such curses? Explain.

3. What does it sometimes take to get fools to do right – 26:3? Explain.

4. **Special Assignment:** In 26:4,5, Solomon makes seemingly contradictory statements. Notice the reasons that he gives in each case, then explain and illustrate the point.

5. Relying on a fool as a messenger is compared to what in 26:6? Explain the point.

6. What happens when a foolish person tries to speak wisely – 26:7 and 9? Explain the illustrations and give examples.

7. Translations of 26:10 vary widely. Study translations and explain the meaning.

8. **Special Assignment:** Where is 26:11 quoted in the New Testament? Explain the illustration, then illustrate the application of both passages.

9. Bad as foolishness is, what is worse according to 26:12? Explain why this is so.

10. In what way is a lazy man like a door – 26:14? Explain how this is true. (Note that 26:13 is the same as we already studied in 22:13 and 26:15 is the same as 19:24.)

11. How does the lazy man view his own conduct – 26:16? Illustrate how this is true.

12. Meddling in quarrels that do not involve us is compared to what – 26:17? How do you harmonize this with New Testament passages that teach us to be peacemakers?

<p>13. <b>Application:</b> What does Solomon teach about deceiving others in 26:18,19? Explain lessons we should learn about deceit and about humor.</p>
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14. What warning does Solomon give about slander and contention in 26:20,21? Explain how this may happen. (Note that 26:22 is the same as 18:8.)

15. List other **passages** about people who speak good things but their heart is wicked. What does Solomon say about them in 26:23?

16. When a person hates others, how will he act – 26:24? Why do they this way?

17. How should we view people who act deceitfully because of hatred – 26:25? Why?

18. What would eventually happen to the man who acts so deceitfully – 26:26?

19. What happens when a person plots harm to others according to 26:27? Give some examples of how this might happen.

20. What do we learn about lies and flattery according to 26:28? What is the relationship between lying and flattery?

## Assignments on Proverbs 27

Please read Proverbs 27 and answer the following questions.

1. **Application:** How should we view the future according to 27:1? Explain some applications we should make regarding both physical and spiritual concerns.

2. If we receive praise, from where should it come – 27:2? Explain why this is so and give applications. (Think: Should we manipulate others into complimenting us?)

3. The wrath of a fool is compared to what – 27:3? State ways this may be true.

4. In what ways might jealousy be worse than wrath – 27:4? Give some examples.

5. What is better than concealed love – 27:5? Why? Is concealed love truly love?

6. Compare the wounds of a friend to the kisses of an enemy – 27:6. How would this apply in a society and religious context that discourages criticizing other beliefs?

7. How does a hungry man differ from one whose hunger is satisfied – 27:7? Explain what this means, not just in physical matters, but also in spiritual matters.

8. To what is a wanderer compared in 27:8? Explain how this is true and applied especially spiritually.

9. How do friends delight one another, and to what is this compared in 27:9? How does this compare to other lessons we have learned even in this chapter?

10. What does 27:10 teach about the value of friends? What mistakes do people sometimes make in this regard? (Note that 27:11,12,13 have already been discussed in our studies.)

11. What should be avoided in praising a friend – 27:14? Why is there danger in this?

12. What is it like to try to restrain a contentious woman – 27:15,16? Where else have we discussed similar topics?

13. How else is the relationship of friends described in 27:17? What should we learn?

14. One who respectfully serves those in authority is compared to what – 27:18? What applications can we make in various authority relationships that the Bible has ordained?

15. In what way is the character of a man made known – 27:19? How can we know the heart of a man? What should we learn?

16. How does Solomon illustrate the discontentment of people – 27:20? Give examples of ways that people are often never satisfied.

17. How are gold and silver refined 27:21? How does this compare to the reputation of people? Can we always tell if a person is good or bad by what other people say? Explain.

18. How hard is it to remove the foolishness from a fool – 27:22? So what conclusions should be reached?

19. **Special Assignment:** What can we know about diligence and industriousness in our work according to 27:23,24? Why is this important? In what areas should we apply this besides caring for animals?

20. What will be the result for those who are diligent in their work – 27:25-27?

## Assignments on Proverbs 28

Please read Proverbs 28 and answer the following questions.

1. How does Solomon describe the courage of righteous people as compared to one who is wicked – 28:1? Explain what reasons may cause this difference.

2. What effect does transgression have on a land, and what can a man of understanding accomplish – 28:2? Why are these things true?

3. What happens when a poor man oppresses other poor people – 28:3? Explain.

4. **Application:** How does the way wicked people treat other wicked people differ from the way good people treat them – 28:4? If we seek to be good, what should we learn?

5. What do godly people understand that evil men do not – 28:5? Explain why this is true. (Note that 28:6,7 are similar to other passages we have studied before.)

6. How do greedy people sometimes mistreat the poor – 28:8? What is the effect in the long run? Explain.

7. What consequence follows when someone turns away from hearing God's law – 28:9? Explain why this should be so.

8. What happens to those who lead good people astray – 28:10? Explain how this could happen.

9. How do rich people often view themselves – 28:11? How are poor people sometimes wiser?

10. How does the exaltation of wicked people differ from that of righteous people – 28:12? Give some examples.

11. **Special Assignment:** How should we deal with our sins according to 28:13? List other **passages**. Illustrate the difference between covering sin and confessing and forsaking it.

12. **Define** reverent. How does the effect of reverence differ from that of hardening one's heart – 28:14?

13. What characteristics of rulers are discussed in 28:15,16? What can we learn?

14. What is the significance of bloodshed in 28:17? How should we treat one who is guilty?

15. What consequences come from frivolity as compared to one who tills his land – 28:19? Explain some examples of frivolity that can lead to this consequence. (Again, we have earlier studied the principles taught in 28:18,20,22.)

16. **Define** partiality. What error does it lead to – 28:21?

17. Rebuking a man is contrasted to what in 28:23? Which is more favorable? Why?

18. How do some people view the practice of stealing from their parents – 28:24? How should we view the practice? (Note that we already studied the principles taught in 28:25,28.)

19. Give examples that illustrate the error of trusting in one's own heart – 28:26. What should we do instead?

20. What consequences follow if we help the poor as compared to if we neglect them – 28:27?

## Assignments on Proverbs 29

Please read Proverbs 29 and answer the following questions.

1. What effect will rebuke have on some people – 29:1? What will the consequence be?
2. When rulers practice justice, what effect does it have – 29:4? What effect does it have when they accept bribes?
3. What effect does flattery have – 29:5? Illustrate by giving some examples.
4. Describe the effects of transgression as compared to the effects of righteousness – 29:6. Explain how sin ensnares people. (The principle of 29:2,3,7 has been discussed already.)
5. What effect do scoffers have – 29:8? What can wise men do instead? Give examples.
6. What are the results when a wise man contends with a foolish man – 29:9? Explain what causes these effects.
7. How does Solomon say different people treat those who are blameless or innocent – 29:10? Give examples from the Bible or from real life.
8. **Application:** What do we need to learn about feelings according to 29:11? Give examples of people who allow their feelings to control them rather than the other way around.
9. What further advice does Solomon give to rulers in 29:12? In what ways does this verse teach the truth? (What is the lesson taught in 29:13?)
10. **Application:** What happens when a child is left to himself – 29:15? What ought to be done instead? List ways that children sometimes are left to themselves.

11. What happens when wicked people prevail in a society – 29:16? What promise can we be sure will result in the end?

12. What assurance are we given about properly trained children – 29:17? Where else has the book made similar statements?

13. What happens when people are not guided by God's instructions – 29:18? What happens when they keep the law? How does this explain problems that we see in our society?

14. Why are words alone sometimes not enough to control a servant – 29:19? Explain what else may be needed. What lesson does this teach for other authority relationships?

15. What often causes people to make mistakes in their speech – 29:20? Give examples of how this can cause problems.

16. What happens when a servant is pampered – 29:21? What possible applications could this have? (Note that 29:22,23 teach lessons that have already been discussed in the book.)

17. What happens when one is a partner with a thief – 29:24?

18. **Special Assignment:** What can happen when we have too much fear of people – 29:25? Give examples of problems that can be caused. What should we do instead?

19. What is the ultimate source of justice – 29:26? Where else do people often turn? Does this mean it is wrong to seek justice from rulers? Explain.

20. How do good people view those who are unjust, and how do wicked people view those who are upright – 29:27? List other **passages** showing our responsibility to hate evil.

## Assignments on Proverbs 30

Please read Proverbs 30 and answer the following questions.

1. Who spoke the Proverbs found in this chapter – 30:1? To whom did he speak them?
2. How did the author view his own understanding – 30:2? How did his knowledge compare to that of God – 30:3?
3. What is the point of the questions in 30:4? Who has done the things referred to here?
4. **Special Assignment:** How does the author view God's word – 30:5? What does this mean about how we should treat His word – 30:6? List other similar *passages*.
5. What two requests does the author make of God in 30:7,8?
6. What consequence does he fear from riches – 30:9? What consequence does he fear from poverty? What lessons should we learn?
7. How should we treat a servant – 30:10? What lessons should we learn today?
8. How do those of an evil generation treat their parents – 30:11? List other similar *passages*. What application should we make?
9. How do those of an evil generation view their own conduct – 30:12,13? How do they tend to view themselves?
10. How does the evil generation treat those who are poor or needy – 30:14? What illustration does the author use to describe this?

11. What things does the author list that never say, “Enough” – 30:15,16? What lesson should we learn from this? (Does 27:20 help?)

12. How does 30:17 describe stubborn, rebellious children? What will the consequence be? What application should we make?

13. What four things does the author not understand – 30:18,19? What do these things have in common?

14. <b>Application:</b> What application does the author make in 30:20 of the things he stated in the previous verses? How does this compare to the modern so-called “safe sex” concept?
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15. What four things create a burden on the world around them – 30:21-23?

16. Explain how each of these four things create a burden.

17. What four animals or insects demonstrate great wisdom – 30:24-28?

18. Explain how each of these four things demonstrates wisdom. What we can learn?

19. What four things are majestic or stately in how they walk – 30:29-31? What application do you believe the author intends to make?

20. What errors does the author describe in 30:32? What does he say we should do if we have committed these errors? Explain.

21. How does the author illustrate the problems created by anger in 30:33? What should we learn?

## **Assignments on Proverbs 31**

Please read Proverbs 31 and answer the following questions.

1. To whom were these words addressed – 31:1,2? Who taught him these principles?
2. What warning is given in 31:3? Explain some dangers that may be involved.
3. What danger should kings avoid – 31:4,5? What consequences can the practice lead to? (Think: In order to do right, do Christians need the clarity of thought that kings need?)
4. According to 31:6,7, strong drink might be appropriate in what limited case? Note: Does the passage say a person should decide on his own to use alcoholic drinks for social purposes or personal pleasure? Explain. Compare 1 Timothy 5:23.
5. Instead of practicing the bad habits that have been discussed, what responsibilities do rulers have – 31:8,9? Explain the meaning.
6. How is the value of a virtuous wife described – 31:10? What should husbands learn?
7. What blessings does a husband receive through a virtuous wife – 31:11,12? Explain some ways that husbands and wives should be able to trust one another.

8. What work does the virtuous woman do according to 31:13,19,21 & 22? What attitude characterizes her work?

9. According to 31:14,15, what does she provide for her household? How is her diligence in her work described?

10. What work does she do according to 31:16? Give modern examples that would be similar to raising such a vineyard.

11. **Case Study:** Some use this example to authorize typical modern women's employment outside the home. Questions: Who owned her location of work and controlled her hours and working conditions: her/her family or the owners of a business company? Did she neglect her family/housework? Did she leave her children long hours daily for others to supervise?

12. How are the virtuous woman's diligence and abilities described in 31:17,18?

13. Her concern extends, not just to her family, but also to whom else – 31:20?

14. What effect does her work and diligence have on her husband – 31:23? Explain how this can happen.

15. What else did she do with the garments that she has made – 31:24? Note: Ask and answer again the questions listed under assignment number 11 above.

16. What clothing is more important to her than what she wears physically – 31:25? What other **passages** teach this concept?

17. What characterizes her speech – 31:26? Explain specifically what it takes to learn such wisdom.

18. Where does the work of a virtuous woman focus – 31:27? List other **passages** about the role of wives as homemakers.

19. **Application:** How should her family respond to her diligence – 31:28,29? List specific lessons for husbands and children to learn.

20. What is the ultimate emphasis and motivation behind the work of the virtuous woman – 31:30? What is not the primary way to judge the character of a woman?

21. **Application:** How should people in society view such a virtuous woman? List some ways that the virtuous woman described here differs from the concepts of the modern Women's Liberation movement.

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