

## **BIB 221 Poetry and Wisdom**

### **Lesson 9 Proverbs 1-9**

Intro. The book of proverbs is a collection of wise sayings. The theme is obviously wisdom. The differences between knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. Knowledge is the learning of facts. Understanding is the comprehension of how the facts relate. Wisdom is the application of both to the affairs of life. That is the foundation of the Trivium which is grammar, logic, and rhetoric.

1:1-6 the salutation: here he gives the purpose of the book and the value of wisdom.

#### 1-9 The instruction of a father to his son

We are going to look at the first major division of the book which is the instruction of a father to his son. The key verses are 1:7-9 Verse 7 is a key definition of what true knowledge is compared to the wisdom of this world.

“Then the Jewish idea of a perfectly wise man is, that the perfectly wise man is the one who, in his whole being, lives and thinks and acts in right relationship to the all-wise God. His wisdom commences emotionally in the fear of God; is manifested intellectually in his acquaintance with the manifestations of the divine nature in word and work; is active volitionally in obedience to the Will of God, as revealed in word and work.” Carroll

Verses 8&9 in reference to Dt. 6:1-2,6-7 which the Jews took seriously. “the instruction of thy father” vs “the law of thy mother” is significant. The primary responsibilities of each parent. Mother: the daily correction and training. Children respond to the law of the mother as they will respond to the Law of God. Parents represent God as the ultimate authority. Primary lesson is obedience to authority. If this single lesson can be learned, they will be chains about thy neck.

However, the focus of this passage is the “instruction of thy father” If the law of the mother has been forsaken the instruction of the father is worthless. It is easy to see how these two build upon each other. If the children are taught obedience and submission to authority how much more inclined the child will be to listen to the instruction of the father especially the teenager. We see the extreme importance of both stages of development and both parents roles for the proper raising of a child.

Eph. 6:4 “*And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*” These chapters are a great example of how this should be accomplished. Notice chapters 2-7 begin “My son”

1. The Want of Wisdom - The sending of the son into the evil world - they must learn eventually (1)
  2. the importance of making the right friends 10-19
  3. the personification of wisdom and the importance of getting it
    4. the call of wisdom in every aspect of life 20-23
    5. the refusal of wisdom and the consequences 24-32
    6. the blessings of wisdom 33
2. The Worth of Wisdom (2)
  3. Most valuable - displayed in Solomon’s life as he asked the Lord for it 1-9
  4. Protection of wisdom

5. against evil men 10-15
  6. initial warning about the strange woman 16-19
  7. keeps in the way of righteousness vs. Wickedness 20-23
3. The Walk of Wisdom - Practical advice (3)
    4. Importance of retaining the instruction 1-4
    5. How to prove the will of God and make decisions 5-6
    6. Walk by faith and not by sight 7-8
    7. Money matters 9-10
    8. Recognizing and responding to the chastening of the Lord 11-12
    9. Benefits of wisdom 13-26
    10. How to maintain good relations with a neighbor 27-29
    11. Don't pick a fight 30
    12. Don't envy the wicked 31-32
    13. Contrasts - how the Lord deals with them both 33-35
      14. wicked vs. Just
      15. scorner vs. Humble
      16. wise vs. Fool
  4. The Wicked and Wisdom (4)
    5. Priority and blessing of retaining wisdom - again repetition 1-13
    6. Avoid the path of wicked at all cost 14-19
    7. Keep on the path of the righteous 20-27 parts of the body
  5. The Woman and Wisdom (5)
    6. Warnings against the strange woman 1-14
    7. Enjoy the marriage bed 15-23 - Heb. 13:4
  6. The Warnings of Wisdom - against pitfalls of life (6)
    - A. Dangers of cosigning 1-5 wish I had been there for that lesson!
    - B. Danger of laziness 6-11 - the importance of a work ethic
    - C. Danger of wicked men and how to identify them 12-15
    - D. Danger of the 7 abominations 16-19
    - E. Danger of the strange woman and adultery 20-35
    - F. The Watch of Wisdom -Strange woman again (7) sight of simple taken in by flattery
    - G. The Wealth of Wisdom (8) possibly a reference to Christ Himself
    - H. The Way of Wisdom - either the attraction of wisdom or the foolish woman (9)
      - I. The importance of receiving wisdom and correction 1-12
      - J. The foolish woman and her path to hell 13-18

#### Conclusion

Warning about women, women, women.

The importance of repetition, remind of the blessings of wisdom and warnings of wickedness. Why the instructions to sons and not daughters? They are under father husband. Read Bible through for each child and give at graduation with notes.