# **Twelve Lessons**

on

# **Proverbs**

Compiled and Written by Ronnie Simpson, Ph.D., Th.D., Ll.D., D.D.



Macedonia Baptist College 9722 Hwy 601 Midland, NC 28107 (704) 784-4200

\$6.00

# CONTENTS

1. A TRUE SON WILL LISTEN TO INSTRUCTIONS	4
2. A TRUE SON WILL LEARN INSTRUCTIONS	6
3. A TRUE SON WILL LIST INSTRUCTIONS	8
4. A TRUE SON WILL LOVE INSTRUCTIONS	10
5. A TRUE SON WILL LEAVE INIQUITY	12
6. A TRUE SON WILL LATCH TO INSTRUCTIONS	14
7. A TRUE SON WILL LAY UP INSTRUCTIONS	16
8. A TRUE SON PERSONIFIED	18
9. A TRUE SON WILL LEAVE ERROR	21
10. A TRUE SON WILL LOSE BY REFUSING INSTRUCTIONS	24
11. A TRUE SON WILL LEAD INTO SWEET VICTORY	26
12. A TRUE SON WILL LAUD HIS FATHER	

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without written permission from Macedonia Baptist College and Xaris, Inc.

χαρις

#### A TRUE SON WILL LISTEN TO INSTRUCTIONS – LESSON 1

#### Proverbs 1:8,10,15

**Introduction:** In 1:1, 10:1, and 25:1, we are told that King Solomon is the author of the book of Proverbs. However, there were several other contributors who compiled the material recorded in chapters 25-29, and Proverbs 30 and 31. Since King Solomon was the greatest contributor, it is rightly called "the proverbs of Solomon."

- 1. The Major Theme "Wisdom" The ability to use knowledge, primarily moral and spiritual understanding. Biblical wisdom keeps us in balance with the principles and purposes of an Almighty God. Wisdom is to be able to cope with people, problems, and principles.
- 2. The Definition A "proverb" is a short statement that takes the place of many words.
- 3. The Key Verse Prov. 1:7 "*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...*" This statement occurs eighteen times in Proverbs. A Biblical interpretation of "fear" is not the fear of the slave before the master but the reverential and respectful fear of the child before the parent.
- 4. The Key Figure The Lord Jesus Christ who is the theme of every book in the Bible.
  - a. Col. 2:3 "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."
  - b. I Cor. 1:24 "But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."
  - c. Matt. 12:42 Queen of Sheba "...came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here."
- 5. How do you study the Book of Proverbs? Since Proverbs is a book of Sentence Sermons, it cannot be systematically studied. Although, my preference is Exposition verse by verse, the Proverbs should be studied by subject matter and I will follow this line in this 12 week study.
- 6. Our Subject will be "*My Son*" found Prov. 1:8; 2:1; 3:1; 4:10; 5:1; 6:1; 7:1; 19:27; 23:15; 24:13; 27:11; and personified in Prov. 8:22-31.
- 7. There are three important truths to study in the book of Proverbs.
  - a. Truths for the parent and child Godly truths that godly parents should pass along to their children.
  - b. Truths from the Father and the Son Prov. 8:22-31
  - c. Truths for the Father and child Spiritual applications on receiving counsel from God our Father.

#### Lesson Goals

- 1. To be taught some keys that will help unlock the truths of the book of Proverbs.
- 2. Acknowledge that Jesus is the theme throughout Proverbs, as He is in the entire Bible.
- 3. To see submission to delegated authority as the real gateway to wisdom.

#### **Definition of Important Terms and Phrases**

- 1. Wisdom The biblical concept of wisdom, therefore, is quite different from the classical view of wisdom, which sought through philosophy and man's rational thought to determine the mysteries of existence and the universe. The first principle of biblical wisdom is that man should humble himself before God in reverence and worship, obedient to His commands.
- 2. Proverb Latin *proverbium*; *pro* and *verbum*, a word. A short sentence often repeated, expressing a well known truth or common fact, ascertained by experience or observation; a maxim of wisdom. In Scripture, it sometimes signifies a moral sentence or maxim that is enigmatical; a dark saying of the wise that requires interpretation.
- 3. Knowledge The truth or facts of life that a person acquires either through experience or thought. The greatest truth that a person can possess with the mind or learn through experience is truth about God (Ps 46:10; John 8:31,32).

#### I. ADORNMENTS – Prov. 1:7-9

**<u>A. Despised Instruction</u>** – vs. 7

- 1. Reverence "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."
  - a. All truth must begin with the acknowledgment of God and the Bible.
  - b. Isa. 30:21 "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."
  - c. Jer. 42:3 "That the Lord thy God may shew us the way wherein we may walk, and the thing that we

may do."

d. The Bible is God's Great Signpost – If you disregard the signpost, it matters not what argument you propose, you will not arrive at the desired destination.

- 2. Rebellion "but fools despise wisdom and instruction."
  - a. "*Fools*" Hebrew word for "evil" or "perverted" person. This is willing ignorance. They will "argue with a rock."
  - b. These "fools" contend there are no absolutes when this is preposterous. There is an evil motive behind their rebellion.
- **<u>B. Double Instruction</u>** vs. 8 Father and mother's word Symbolic of authority and affection.
  - 1. Authority of the Word "*hear the instruction of thy father*." Instruction Hebrew definition tied to rebuke, discipline, correction, check, chastisement, warning, reproof, and restraint.
  - 2. Affection of the Word "*forsake not the law of thy mother*." "Precepts" Rules laid down by the Word, and the Christian does not forsake them because he does not want to grieve or hurt God. It is a far greater principle to live right because we are afraid of what we may do to God or His work, instead of serving Him only because we fear His wrath.

### C. Displayed Instruction - vs. 9

- 1. Honors Godly Attitudes "... ornament of grace unto thy head."
- a. Submission to authority changes our attitudes.
- b. Titus 2:10 "...*adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things*." The thought is to make the Bible beautiful to others by living a godly life.
- 2. Honors Godly Actions "*chains about thy neck*" The submissive neck that bows to authority. We will be ruled either by the severe chains of Satan or the submissive chains of the Saviour.
  - a. Submission to affection changes our actions.
  - b. I Pet. 3:3-4 "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." Submissive attitudes and actions can win the wickedest husband.

# II. AVOIDANCES – Prov. 1:10-14

# **<u>A. Devilish Temptations</u>** – vs. 10

- 1. A Call "*If sinners entice thee*" The sinner here is one who has missed the mark. It is amazing that those who are failures, are not satisfied unless they make everyone else a failure. "*Entice*" "to make room" There's always a seat on Satan's bus to Hell and Death.
- 2. A Choice "*consent thou not*" Don't endorse, support, or acknowledge what they are doing but rather rebuke them. God made us a free moral agent with the ability to resist the devil and to flee youthful lusts.

#### **B. Devised Temptations** – vs. 11-12

- 1. "Lay" To devise an ambush
- 2. "*Lurk*" To hide undercover Watch how Satan treats others and he will surely betray and treat you the same.
- C. Drawing Temptations vs. 13-14
  - a. The Promise The Lure of Covetousness vs. 13 It pulled Achan away.
  - b. The Purse The Lure of Compromise vs. 14 "let us all have one purse."

#### III. ASSOCIATIONS – Prov. 1:15-19

- <u>A. Destroy Intentions</u> vs. 15-16 No Christian plans to sin but our old nature is prone to step into the path of sin so we must not associate ourselves with them but stay as far as we can away from them. "Refrain"
- **<u>B. Destroy Instincts</u>** vs. 17-18 By nature, animals are cautious of being trapped so they have to be deceived to destroy their instincts. Familiarity with sin destroys our consciousness of sin and its damage.
- **<u>C. Destroy Incentives</u>** vs. 19 Whatever motives and principles we may have, sin will take away that incentive.

**<u>Conclusion</u>**: As a faithful father's authority and a faithful mother's affection should cause a young man to flee evil people and their sins because it will bring disgrace upon him and his family, so should the Christian listen to the Word of God.