

## The Christian's Guide To Wisdom

Christians walk with "wisdom" as go through life - **Ephesians 5:15-17**

Time fleeting, days are evil, we must make best use of time

People wasting time & lives not using wisdom in daily lives

Word of God is to equip man to every good work - **2Timothy 3:16-17**

Natural to assume it provides sound advice on daily living

It does, especially in "**Proverbs**" in the Old Testament

The purpose of this study is to...

Introduce "**Proverbs**" as a source of great wisdom

Encourage Christians utilize it in efforts to walk wisely

### The Purpose Of The Book Of Proverbs

Clearly Stated in First Six Verses of The Book

Wisdom & instruction, perceive words of understanding

Receive instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment, & equity

To give to the...

Simple (naive) - "prudence"

Young man - "knowledge and discretion"

Wise man - "increased learning"

Man of understanding - "wise counsel"

The Book is Therefore Designed:

To make a person wise!

Learn how to act wisely and righteously, treat others with fairness

To give ignorant, common sense; young, sound advice; wise, even more wisdom

### The Definition And Value Of Wisdom

Defining Wisdom...

Homer Haley defines as insight into the underlying causes & significance or consequence of things, which enables to apply to the best end the knowledge he has.

You are yelled at by boss, wife, or brother in Christ

You could strike back physically, or verbally, do nothing

You could react with a soft, kind reply - **Proverbs 15:1**

Wisdom will enable you to react in the proper way

**Proverbs 1-9** are discourses on the Value of Wisdom

Virtue wisdom seen in prosperous life produced **Proverbs 3:13-18**

Wisdom's value found guarding against pitfalls **Proverbs 3:21-26**

Some "pitfalls" frequently warned against in "**Proverbs**":

Evil companionship **Proverbs 1:10-19**

They want you to join them in their wrong doing

If you do, caught with them in their self-destruction

Wisdom would preserve you from this

The immoral woman **Proverbs 5:1-14**

An "affair" might appear exciting and harmless

Quickest to destroy physical, emotional, & spiritual

The exercise of wisdom will spare from total ruin

Laziness **Proverbs 6:6-11**

It may be good to do nothing

But sloth guarantees failure and poverty

Wisdom provides a much better way of life

## **The Value Of "The Book Of Proverbs"**

Wisdom Normally Gained from One of Two Sources

Through years of "trial and error"

Source when person listens only to his own experience

There are disadvantages to gaining wisdom this way:

Much lifetime wasted trying to learn by trial and error

One is forced to live with consequences of errors

Sadly, only way many people gain wisdom, if survive!

Through the proven experience of others

This possible only if one will heed the advice of others

There are clear advantages to gaining wisdom this way:

Avoid wasting years of life through trial & error

Life unburdened with consequences of mistakes

Certainly this method of gaining wisdom is far superior!

Gaining Wisdom makes "**Proverbs**" so Valuable!

Instead of discover wisdom through trial & error, go to "**Proverbs**"

There we can find wisdom that is: Divinely inspired by God!

Proven true by generations of righteous men & women

Short & easy to remember (Proverb: "a short sentence based on long experience" -

Cervantes in Don Quixote)

Value of "Proverbs" is that it provides the wisdom of God

Not to say it takes little effort to glean wisdom - **Proverbs 2:1-5**

Look to God's Word & prayer - **James 1:5-6**

Far better way to wisdom than most people use

**Hope make you want study Proverbs, glean its treasures of wisdom**

No discussion on wisdom complete w/out Jesus - **Colossians 2:1-3**

W/out Jesus in life, no way to be truly wise. Have you come Christ?

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