



SKILL FOR LIFE

Wisdom in a Broken World

A Brief Series in Proverbs

God cares about our understanding of the massive truths of our existence. But he also cares about the nuances that make a difference in our relationships and experiences every day. Even if we do seek the holiness of the Law, and we do, even if we are inspired by the visions of the prophets, and we are, we can still make a mess of our lives, our families, our churches, our workplaces, our communities if we are unwise.

-Ray Ortlund, Jr

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**Do you see a person who is wise in his own eyes?
There is more hope for a fool than for him.**

Proverbs 26:12

**A gentle answer turns away anger, but a harsh word
stirs up wrath.**

Proverbs 15:1

A mocker doesn't love one who corrects him; he will not consult the wise.

Proverbs 15:12

Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure with turmoil.

Proverbs 15:16

Plans fail when there is no counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.

Proverbs 15:22

- ¹The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:
- ²For learning wisdom and discipline; for understanding insightful sayings;
- ³for receiving prudent instruction in righteousness, justice, and integrity;
- ⁴for teaching shrewdness to the inexperienced, knowledge and discretion to a young man—

...

⁵ let a wise person listen and increase learning, and
let a discerning person obtain
guidance—

⁶ for understanding a proverb or a parable, the words
of the wise, and their riddles.

⁷ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Proverbs 1:1-7

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**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and discipline.**

Proverbs 1:7

⁶ For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷ He stores up success for the upright; He is a shield for those who live with integrity ⁸ so that He may guard the paths of justice and protect the way of His faithful followers.

⁹ Then you will understand righteousness, justice, and integrity — every good path.

¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will delight you.

¹¹ Discretion will watch over you, and understanding will guard you.

¹² It will rescue you from the way of evil—from anyone who says perverse things, ¹³ from those who abandon the right paths to walk in ways of darkness, ¹⁴ from those who enjoy doing evil and celebrate perversion, ¹⁵ whose paths are crooked, and whose ways are devious.

Proverbs 2:6-15

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**So follow the way of the good and keep to the paths
of the righteous.**

Proverbs 2:20

Wisdom calls out in the street; she makes her voice heard in the public squares.

Proverbs 1:20

Folly is a rowdy woman; she is gullible and knows nothing.

Proverbs 9:13

²² “The Lord acquired me at the beginning of his creation, before his works of long ago.

²³ I was formed before ancient times, from the beginning, before the earth began.

²⁴ I was born when there were no watery depths and no springs filled with water.

Proverbs 8:22-24

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

¹⁶ For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through him and for him.

Colossians 1:15-16

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I was a skilled craftsman beside him.

Proverbs 8:30a

Wisdom has built her house;
she has carved out her seven pillars.

² She has prepared her meat; she has mixed her
wine;

she has also set her table.

³ She has sent out her female servants;
she calls out from the highest points of the city:

Proverbs 9:1-3

[Wisdom] calls out from the highest points of the city:

Proverbs 9:3

¹⁴ [Folly] sits by the doorway of her house, on a seat at the highest point of the city, ¹⁵ calling to those who pass by,

Proverbs 9:14-15

⁵ “Come, eat my bread, and drink the wine I have mixed.

⁶ Leave inexperience behind, and you will live;
pursue the way
of understanding.

Proverbs 9:5-6

¹⁷ “Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten secretly is tasty!”

¹⁸ But he doesn't know that the departed spirits are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

Proverbs 9:17-18

Dining with a woman implies an intimate relationship, so we might ask more pointedly: Will Wisdom or Folly become an integral part of life?

-Tremper Longman

**Yet to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God,**

1 Corinthians 1:24

“Everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain fell, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and pounded that house. Yet it didn’t collapse, because its foundation was on the rock.

²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and doesn’t act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, the rivers rose, the winds blew and pounded that house, and it collapsed. It collapsed with a great crash.”

Matthew 7:24-27

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