

Outline of The Proverbs

A.	Proverbs 1:6-9:18: Proverbs for Solomon .
B.	Proverbs 10:1-19:19: Proverbs for all
C.	Proverbs 19:20-24:34: Proverbs for Solomon .
D.	Proverbs 25:1-26:28: Proverbs for all .
E.	Proverbs 27:1-29:27: Proverbs for Solomon
F.	Proverbs 30:1-31:31: The Words of Agur and The Words of king Lemuel.

Wisdom's Call | Proverbs 3:1-35

We have been proceeding in our study under the premise (realizing it is speculation) of **My son** being Solomon (or perhaps any ruler of Israel), is being given *words of the wise* (1:6), by his parents, David and Bathsheba.

Chapter 3 | Verses- 1-5—

The *words of the wise* pertain to fear of the Lord, hearing instruction, moving towards wisdom, and staying away from the foreign woman. Now Solomon receives more *words of the wise* to **forget not my law; ...keep my commandments**. The word **law** is *Torah*. We last saw this word in 1:8, and it was the *law of they mother*. Is his mother addressing him now?

For length of days, and long life...add to thee. That is, wisdom will be added to his life (this is not promising long life for following Wisdom). **Mercy and truth...bind them about thy neck...write them...thine heart.** Result?

Favor with both God and people. A wise leader will gain a good reputation!

Verses 5-35—

When the king of Israel keeps the law and commandments, he will never have to worry about the direction he is taking his nation because the Lord **shall direct his paths**. In 1 Chronicles 28:9, David gave his son Solomon similar wise words.

What Solomon is to do.	What Solomon is NOT to do.
1. Trust in the Lord with all his heart (3:5-8).	1. Do not despise discipline (3:11-12). See note vss. 11,12 below.
2. Tithe to the Lord (vss. 9-10).	2. Do not lose sight of good planning and insight. (3:21).
(See notes on 5-10 below)	3. Do not be overtaken by fear (3:25-26).
	4. Do not wrong your neighbor (3:27-30).
	5. Do not envy a violent man (3:31-35).

Verse 5—

Seven Heb. Words for **Trust**. This one is *to confide in*, trust is the N.T. word believe, see Rom. 10:9).

Verse 6—**direct thy paths**. Literally rightly divide. Same as the N.T. word *orthotomeo*. By doing so it shows what is right or pleasing to God.

Verse 7—

Be not wise in thine own eyes. Paul says, *Be not wise in your own conceits* (Romans 12:16) and esteem the lowly things. Don't go after prestige.

Verse 8—

Health to thy navel. The navel was the centerpoint of life. Literally, medicine to the whole body. **Marrow** is literally moistening or watering.

Verse 9,10—

The O.T. principle of the tithe. Not a N.T. principle.

Verse 11, 12—

Chastening of the Lord...who the LORD loveth he correcteth. We should be cautious in making a doctrine from this. Some use passages in Hebrews, and 1 Corinthians 12:7 to make the same point. What is true is that disciplining (correcting) a child is a loving act of a father.

Verses 25,26—

A good leader is not **afraid of sudden fear**, and will lead his people **in confidence** of the **LORD**. (Moses: Exodus 14:13,14; Elisha: 2 Kings 6:9-18)

Wisdom's Call, continued | Chapter 4:1-27

King David turns his attention to all his **children** (literally, sons). There are three things they should strive for, and all three have to do with Wisdom:

1. **Acquire understanding by listening to good doctrine** (4:1-2, 5, 7).
2. **Embrace the commandments** (vs. 4), and **Wisdom** (vs. 8).
3. **Exalt Wisdom** (vs. 8), and she will exalt the king!

Verse 10-27—

Back to Solomon.

- Wisdom should guard his feet.
- 1) **thy steps shall not be straitened** (not straightened). Straitened means distress. 2) And, Wisdom will keep him from straying (13-19; 26,27).
- Wisdom should guard his heart (vss 20-23).
- Wisdom should guard his tongue (vs. 24).
- Wisdom should guard his eyes (vs. 25).

3:1–4:27. Wisdom's Call.

5:1–23. The Foreign Woman.

6:1–23. Wisdom's Call.

6:24–35. The Foreign Woman.

7:1–4. Wisdom's Call.

7:5–27. The Foreign Woman.

8:1–9:12. Wisdom's Call.

9:13–18. The Foolish Woman.¹

The Foreign Woman | Chapter 5:23

The **strange woman** is the woman from another nation—the foreigner. Solomon is going to be given the warning and instruction about sexuality—Something Solomon did not heed in his lifetime.

What is the foreign woman like:

¹ Bullinger, Ethelbert W. *The Companion Bible: Being the Authorized Version of 1611 with the Structures and Notes, Critical, Explanatory and Suggestive and with 198 Appendixes*. Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2018. Print.

Some additional outlines from Willmington, H. L. *The Outline Bible*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1999. Print.

1. She offers pleasure.
 - a. Her lips are as sweet as honey (5:3). **Drop** is a religious term, it translates as prophesy, or preach. She is offering a religious sexual idolatry.
 - b. Her mouth is smoother than oil (5:3). She flatters her victims.
2. There is a price to pay for giving in to her.
 - a. The result is bitter and cutting (vs. 4).
 - b. Her feet will lead the man to death, straight to the grave (vs. 5).
 - c. She doesn't pay attention to her path of life (vs. 6). She doesn't care where it leads.
 - d. The ruler's honor (or reputation) will be taken from him (vss. 7-9).
 - e. It will lead him to almost complete ruin (vss. 12-14) **I was almost in all evil.** *Or, I soon became as an evil man.*
 - f. She will lead the ruler to the loss of his wealth (vs. 10).
 - g. His health may be destroyed (vs. 11).
 - h. And, in fact, he will be trapped in his own sin (vss. 21-23).

Rather, the king should follow God's plan and delight in his own wife.

1. Remain faithful to her (vss. 15-18).
2. He will be rewarded by her love (vss. 19-20)