

Outline of The Book 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.

I. Wisdom Now | 8:12-21

Verse 12-21

Wisdom is personified, as is **prudence**. **Prudence** can be translated wily, or crafty; shrewdness, cleverness.

Literally, *“I wisdom dwell with subtilty. And I meet face to face with knowledge.”* The two cannot be separated. Wisdom is subtle and it reflects knowledge.

The leaders of earth need **wisdom** in order to rule wisely (vs. 15,16). **Wisdom** is more valuable than personal riches (vss. 18,19). **Wisdom** can be learned **those that seek me early shall find me**. **Early** is *seek diligently*, like getting up in the morning and not stopping until you find **wisdom**.

II. Wisdom In Eternity Past | 8:22-31

Some believe the Son of God is pictured in verses 22-31. John 1:1.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

We can speculate this is referencing the Son of God, but we must be careful. Verse 22 **The LORD possessed me**. The word can mean *create*, I believe the LXX translates it that way. The Son was not created, so I personally rule out this being a reference to the Son of God. And instead look at it as a characteristic of God personified. *“Plain sense makes common sense.”*

The Son was not created, but He did create, Colossians 1:16,17. Therefore, the world and the universe was created with **wisdom**. There was a purpose, and there was a plan.

III. God Delights in Wisdom | 8:30-31

And I was daily His delight. Wisdom is pleasant to God. Likewise, God delights in His Son: Matthew 3:17.

IV. The Results of Wisdom | 9:1-12

a. Wisdom builds up (vs. 1)

Built her house, hewn out her seven pillars. Some believe the seven pillars refer to the six days of Creation, plus the day of rest. Probably best to take this verse as **Wisdom** is like a spacious house or a palace.

b. Wisdom provides for those who partake of her (vs. 2-6)

Wisdom prepares a great feast. **Mingled wine**, probably refers to mixing it with water to achieve a perfect balance of taste.

2 Maccabees 15:39: For as it is hurtful to drink wine or water alone; and as wine mingled with water is pleasant, and delighteth the taste: even so speech finely framed delighteth the ears of them that read the story.¹

Real living is to **forsake the foolish** (vs 6).

c. Wisdom is a package deal of promises | 9:7-10

The context is being invited to the banquet of wisdom. When a person accepts the invitation, he is open to rebuke or correction and will respond to it—even if the rebuke is unwarranted. The rebuke adds to their knowledge and from it they will learn and enjoy life even more. Those who don't listen to correction, good or bad, will suffer for it. Usually, even bad correction has a hint of truth to it.

The bottom line, the righteous will learn more, and the wise will be wiser. (vs. 10)

d. Wisdom has additional benefits | 9:11-12

Years of thy life shall be increased. This could be literal insofar poor choices can lead to premature physical death.

V. The Foolish Woman | 9:13-18

a. Sexual immorality (Its fleeting promises) | 9:13-17

i. sweet and pleasant (vs. 17)

b. Sexual immorality (Its production) | 9:18

It hurts a person, emotionally, spiritually, physically, and economically. It destroys instead of builds up.

Death as opposed to life.

¹ [The Apocrypha: King James Version](#). Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1995. Print.