

Proverbs

Literary Context

Author: Solomon and others

Date: Mid 10th century BC

Main Sections

1. Chapters 1-9
2. Chapters 10-29
3. Chapters 30-31

Historical Context

- The book characterizes the wisdom that a king needs to rule over God's people.
- The book points to Christ! The Great King who possesses the greatest wisdom to rule over God's people.

Central Theme

Wisdom is fearing the Lord, being teachable, and having skill in Godly living. The source, the means and goal of all wisdom is the Lord!

3 Aspects of Biblical Wisdom

1. Fear of the LORD
 - Living life in relation to who God is
 - Listening to God
 - Having a tender/repentant heart in response God's word
2. Being Teachable
 - Humility
3. Having Skill in Godly Living
 - Wisdom = Knowledge in Action

What are Proverbs?

1. They are general principles and observations, seen in the created order by those who fear the Lord.
2. Some Proverbs are always true because they describe eternal truths about God and the hardwired workings of the universe

How Do I interpret Proverbs?

1. Determine the parallelisms
2. Identify the figures of speech
3. Summarize in your own words
4. Apply to your own life

*Consult different translations

Four Themes

1. The fool and the sluggard
2. Personal relationships
3. Communication
4. The outcome of wisdom

Where is Jesus in the Proverbs?

They describe the beauty of Jesus

They show our need for Jesus