

Real Wisdom for Real Life



Listen Up (!)
...and Choose Well!!

Proverbs 1:8-33

“I am who I am today
because of the choices
I made yesterday.”



--Eleanor Roosevelt



Bruce Waltke

PROVERBS

A SHORTER COMMENTARY



BRUCE K. WALTKE

IVAN D. V. DE SILVA



“Deed-Destiny
Nexus”

Bruce Waltke

Matthew 7:24-28

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock. . . But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand, and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

Matthew 7:24-28

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Proverbs 1:26-27

I also will laugh at your
calamity; I will mock when
your terror comes,
when your terror comes like
a storm, and your
destruction comes like a
whirlwind, when distress
and anguish come upon you.

Proverbs 1:26-27

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Ezekiel 33:11b

I have no pleasure in
the death of the
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Luke 19:41-432

Now as [Jesus] drew near,
He saw the city and wept
over it, saying, "If you had
known, even you, especially
in this your day, the
things that make for
your peace! But now they are
hidden from your eyes.

Luke 19:41-432

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1 Kings 4:29,32

And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five.

1 Kings 4:29,32

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Proverbs 1:4-5

to give prudence to
the simple, to the
young man knowledge and
discretion—a wise man will
hear and increase learning,
and a man of
understanding will attain
wise counsel.

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Proverbs 1:7a

The fear of
the Lord is the
beginning of
knowledge.

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Proverbs 1:8

My son, hear the
instruction of your
father and do not
forsake the law of
your mother.

Proverbs 1:8

My son, hear the
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Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Hear O Israel: The
Lord our God,
the Lord is one! You shall
love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with
all your soul, and with
all your strength.

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Proverbs 1:8-33

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Proverbs 1:8-33

Proverbs 1:10

My son, if sinners
entice you, do not
consent!

Proverbs 1:10

My son, if sinners
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Proverbs 1:8

My son, hear the
instruction of your
father,

And do not forsake
the law of your
mother;

Proverbs 1:9

For they will
be a graceful
ornament on your
head,
And chains about
your neck.

Proverbs 1:10

My son, if sinners
entice you,
Do not consent.

Proverbs 1:11

If they say, "Come with
us,

Let us lie in wait
to shed blood;

Let us lurk secretly for
the innocent without
cause;

Proverbs 1:12

Let us swallow them
alive like Sheol,
And whole, like
those who go down
to the Pit;

Proverbs 1:13

We shall find
all kinds of
precious possessions,
We shall fill our
houses with spoil;

Proverbs 1:14

Cast in your lot
among us,
Let us all have one
purse"—

Proverbs 1:15

My son, do not walk
in the way with them,
Keep your foot from
their path;

Proverbs 1:16

For their feet run to
evil,

And they make haste
to shed blood.

Proverbs 1:17

Surely, in vain the
net is spread
In the sight of
any bird;

Proverbs 1:18

But they lie in wait
for their own blood,
They lurk secretly
for their own lives.

Proverbs 1:19

So are the ways of
everyone who is
greedy for gain;
It takes away the
life of its owners.

Proverbs 1:20

Wisdom calls
aloud outside;
She raises her voice
in the open squares.

Proverbs 1:21

She cries out in
the chief concourses,
At the openings of
the gates in the city
She speaks her words:

Proverbs 1:22

"How long, you simple
ones, will you
love simplicity?

For scorners delight in
their scorning,
And fools hate
knowledge.

Proverbs 1:23

Turn at my rebuke;
Surely I will pour
out my spirit on you;
I will make my
words known to you.

Proverbs 1:24

Because I have
called and you
refused,

I have stretched out
my hand and no one
regarded,

Proverbs 1:25

Because
you disdained all
my counsel,
And would have
none of my rebuke,

Proverbs 1:26

I also will laugh at
your calamity;
I will mock when
your terror comes,

Proverbs 1:27

When your terror comes
Like a storm,

And your destruction
comes like a whirlwind,

When distress and
anguish come upon you.

Proverbs 1:28

"Then they will call
on me, but I will not
answer;

They will seek me
diligently, but they
will not find me.

Proverbs 1:29

Because they hated
knowledge

And did not choose
the fear of the Lord,

Proverbs 1:30

They would have
none of my counsel
And despised my
every rebuke.

Proverbs 1:31

Therefore they shall
eat the fruit of their
own way,
And be filled to the
full with their own
fancies.

Proverbs 1:32

For the turning away
of the simple will
slay them,
And the complacency
of fools will destroy
them;

Proverbs 1:33

But whoever listens
to me will
dwell safely,
And will be secure,
without fear of evil."

Two compassionate
appeals:

Proverbs 1:8-9

My son, hear the instruction
of your father, and do not
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Two compassionate
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Two compassionate appeals:

- parental counsel (vv. 8-9)

Proverbs 1:20-21a

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- apocalyptic warning (vv. 20-21)

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I will make known
my word to you.

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Matthew 11:28-30

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

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John 7:37b-38

"If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

John 7:37b-38

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Revelation 3:20a

Behold I stand at
the door and knock

Revelation 2:5

Remember therefore from
where you have fallen;
repent and do the first
works, or else I will come
to you quickly and remove
your lampstand from its
place—unless you repent.

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Two compassionate appeals:

- parental counsel (vv. 8-9)
- apocalyptic warning (vv. 20-21)

Two common
Temptations:

Proverbs 1:11-14

If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait to shed blood; let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause; let us swallow them alive like Sheol, and whole, like those who go down to the Pit. We shall find all kinds of precious possessions, we shall fill our houses with spoil. Cast in your lot among us, let us all have one purse"

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Proverbs 1:9a

So are the ways of
everyone who is
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Two common
Temptations:

Two common Temptations:

- Actively following the "instant gratification" crowd

Two common
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Two common Temptations:

- Actively following the "instant gratification" crowd
- Passively failing to "fear the Lord"

Proverbs 1:24-25

Because I have called and
you refused, I have
stretched out my hand
and no one regarded;
Because you disdained all
my counsel and would
have none of my rebuke.

Proverbs 1:24-25

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Proverbs 1:29

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Mathew 6:24a

No one

can serve two masters;
for either he will hate
the one and love the
other, or else he will be
loyal to the one and
despise the other.

Two self-inflicted
consequences:

Proverbs 1:18-19

But they lie in wait for
their own blood, they lurk
secretly for their own
lives. So are the ways of
everyone who is greedy
for gain; it takes away the
life of its owners.

Proverbs 1:18-19

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Proverbs 1:16

For their feet run to
evil, and they make
haste to shed blood.

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Two self-inflicted
consequences:

Two self-inflicted consequences:

- Horrific loss of life

Proverbs 1:31-32

Therefore they shall eat
the fruit of their own way,
and be filled to the full
with their own fancies. For
the turning away of the
simple will slay them, and
the complacency of fools
will destroy them.

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Proverbs 1:26-28

I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when your terror
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comes like a whirlwind, when
distress and anguish come upon
you. Then they will call on me, but
I will not answer; they will seek
me diligently, but they will not
find me."

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Matthew 5:22b

But whoever says,
'You fool!' shall be
in danger of
hell fire.

Matthew 5:22b

But whoever says,
'You fool!' shall be
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~~Matthew 5:22b~~

Matthew 25:30b

... cast the
unprofitable servant
into the outer darkness.
There will be weeping
and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:30b

... cast the
unprofitable servant
into the outer darkness.
~~There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.~~

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Two self-inflicted consequences:

- Horrific loss of life

Two self-inflicted consequences:

- Horrific loss of life
- Permanent loss of access to
God



02
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Three compelling
rewards:

Proverbs 1:8-9

My son, hear the instruction
of your father, and do not
forsake the law of your
mother; for they will be a
graceful ornament
on your head, and
chains about your neck.

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My son, hear the instruction
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John 14:23b

If anyone loves Me, he
will keep My word,
and My Father will
love him, and We will
come to him and make
Our home with him!

Three compelling
rewards:

Three compelling
rewards:

- Beauty

Proverbs 1:23

Turn at my rebuke;
surely I will pour
out my spirit on you;
I will make known
my word to you.

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Three compelling
rewards:

- Beauty

Three compelling rewards:

- Beauty
- Insight

Proverbs 1:33

But whoever listens
to me will dwell
safely, and will be
secure, without fear
of evil.

Proverbs 1:33

But whoever ~~listens~~
to me will dwell
safely, and will be
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Three compelling rewards:

- Beauty
- Insight

Three compelling rewards:

- Beauty
- Insight
- Security

When we fear
the Lord of all,
we've no reason to fear
anything else at all!

John 14:1, 27

Let not your heart be troubled;
you believe in God, believe
also in Me.

Peace I leave with you, My
peace I give to you; not as the
world gives do I give to you.
Let not your heart be troubled,
neither let it be afraid.

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Proverbs 1:8-33