

Proverbs Study 2

Reading Proverbs 6-10

Assignments on Proverbs 6

Please read Proverbs 6

1. Define surety. List other Scriptures about it.
2. What problems can be caused by agreeing to be surety for another person? Give some examples. (Think: Is Solomon saying that becoming surety is sinful? Explain.)
3. What advice does Solomon give to those who have agreed to be surety – 6:3-5? How might this solve the problem?
4. Define “sluggard” and “slothful.” Where does Solomon say a lazy person should go to learn important lessons – 6:6-8?
5. Application: Explain some lessons a lazy man could learn from studying ants.
6. Instead of working, what does a lazy person prefer to do – verses 9-11? What consequences will come as a result? Explain.
7. What are some characteristics of a worthless or perverse man – 6:12-15?
8. What consequences will come as a result? Give examples.

9. Define abomination. List and explain 3 passages that show God hates evil.
10. List the 7 abominations of 6:16-19, and explain the meaning of each in your own words. For each of these 7 abominations, list a scripture elsewhere that discusses it.
11. To what subject does Solomon return beginning in 6:20? Whose responsibility is it to instruct children?
12. In what way do the instructions of parents benefit the children according to 6:21-23? Are command keeping and reproofs good or bad? Explain.
13. To what subject does Solomon return beginning in verse 24? What method does an evil woman use to seduce a man according to verse 24? Give examples.
14. What other means may an evil woman use to allure a man according to 6:25? Give examples.
15. Application: Define lust. Many people see no harm in enjoying thoughts of illicit intimacy (such as in entertainment, pornography, etc.) so long as one does not actually do anything wrong. What can we learn about this from the instructions here and elsewhere?
16. How does Solomon describe the consequences of adultery in verse 26? Explain.
17. What illustrations are used to demonstrate the danger of adultery in 6:27-29? Explain them. What lessons should we learn?

18. How do people view stealing according to verses 30,31? Yet what consequences may it have? How does this relate to the discussion of adultery?

19. So, what consequences of adultery are described in 6:32,33?

20. What other concern can adultery lead to according to verses 34,35? What lessons should a young man learn?

Assignments on Proverbs 7

Please read Proverbs 7

1. What does Solomon tell his son about the value of his commandments in 7:1-4?

2. What is the significance of referring to the law as the apple of one's eye? What does it mean to say that wisdom is one's sister?

3. What danger does Solomon discuss again in 7:5ff? What means does she use to seduce?

4. How does Solomon describe the seduction of a young man beginning in 7:6? (Think: In contrast to Solomon's description, how would modern entertainment treat such a story?)

5. What can we learn from the circumstances under which the young man passes by the woman's home – verses 7-9? What kind of young man was he? What time of day was it?

6. How is the woman described in 7:10? What is the significance of the crafty heart?

7. Application: How is the clothing of the seductress described in verse 10? What should godly women learn? If such clothing becomes the fashion, what should godly women do?

8. How is the woman described in 7:11,12? List passages showing how a godly woman should be rather than loud and rebellious? What should godly men and women learn?

9. What is the significance of saying that she refuses to stay at home? How does this differ from the Bible teaching about a godly woman?

10. How does she greet the young man – 7:13-15? What can we learn about the manner in which she expresses her affection?

11. What is the significance of the fact that she said she has paid her vows? What does this show about the nature of her religion?

12. How does the seductress describe her bed in 7:16,17? What is her point?

13. What proposition does she make in 7:18? How does her concept of love compare to the biblical meaning?

14. Where is her husband – verse 19? Why does she say this? What does this tell you about her right to enter into the relationship that she suggests?

15. What additional information does she give in 7:20? What is her point?

16. Application: What similarities exist between the efforts of the seductress and the concept of so-called safe sex? What assurance do advocates of safe sex attempt to give?

17. According to verses 21,22, what effect do her efforts to seduce have on the young man? How does Solomon illustrate his decision to go in verse 22?

18. How are the consequences described in 7:23? Explain the illustrations.

19. So, what guidance does Solomon give regarding such conduct in verses 24,25?

20. How does Solomon describe in 7:26 those who give in to seduction? What is the significance of the reference to strong men? Can you give examples?

21. What is the final consequence according to verse 27?

Assignments on Proverbs 8

Please read Proverbs 8

1. Special Assignment: As we study through chapter 8, make a list of the characteristics of wisdom: what it is and what it does.

2. Where does wisdom speak and lift up her voice – 8:1-4? To whom does she call?

3. What does the call of wisdom teach us about spreading the gospel? Whom should we teach? What limit should there be on those who are subject to the teaching of God's word?

4. Describe the kinds of things that wisdom says she speaks – 8:5-8. What kinds of things does she not speak?

5. What conclusions can we reach about those who would disagree or contradict the wisdom found in the word of God?
6. How do verses 10,11 describe the value of wisdom? What lesson should we learn?
7. What other qualities come closely associated with wisdom – 8:12? Explain these terms and why they are important.
8. If we fear the Lord, what will we hate – 8:13? Is it proper for Christians to hate? Explain.
9. What benefits does wisdom provide according to 8:14? How can these benefits help us?
10. Who needs wisdom according to verses 15,16? How would wisdom benefit these people, and how does a society suffer when wisdom is lacking with these people?
11. Application: What does wisdom promise in 8:17? Explain the application to us.
12. What blessings does wisdom give according to 8:18,19? Explain and give examples.
13. What characterizes wisdom according to 8:20,21? How would this benefit us?
14. What does 8:22,23 teach us about the history of wisdom? What lesson should we learn? (Think: Some have claimed this proves that wisdom here is a reference to Jesus Christ. What evidence exists for such a viewpoint?)

15. List the things that God made according to 8:24-31.
16. List other passages that describe the wisdom of God demonstrated in creation.
17. Special Assignment: Explain why wisdom was especially important in the context of the creation. How does the creation demonstrate the wisdom of God?
18. What lesson should the history of wisdom teach us – 8:32,33? Explain.
19. Understanding the value of wisdom, what should we do – 8:34,35? What blessings can they give us?
20. On the other hand, what does wisdom affirm about those who reject her – 8:36?
21. Application: Can you think of an instance in your own life when you needed wisdom but lacked it? Please describe briefly.

Assignments on Proverbs 9

Please read Proverbs 9

1. What is wisdom described as doing in 9:1,2? Explain what is pictured in the context.
2. How does she extend invitations – 9:3?
3. Who is invited to partake of her feast – 9:4,5? So what does the feast represent?

4. What benefit will people receive who participate – 9:6?

5. Application: What lessons can we learn about man's free will power to choose and how God instructs people in His will? Does God force people to listen and learn His will? If we want to benefit, what must we do?

6. What happens when you reprove a scoffer or a wicked man – 9:7,8?

7. What is a scoffer? Why do such people respond in this way?

8. How do wise and upright people respond to rebuke and instruction – 9:8,9? Why do they respond in this way?

9. List other passages about rebuking sin.

10. Case Study: A friend says: "It's not Christ-like to criticize other people's religious beliefs. If people sincerely believe a thing, why should other people tell them it's wrong? Just preach the gospel but let other people alone." What can we learn about such views in Proverbs?

11. From what source can we get wisdom – 9:10? Where else does the teach book this?

12. What benefits can we receive if we participate in the feast wisdom offers – 9:11?

13. Who ultimately benefits if you participate in the feast wisdom offers – 9:12? If you scoff and reject wisdom, who ultimately suffers the consequences? Explain.

14. Application: Can other people help you gain wisdom? Who ultimately determines the wisdom that you obtain? What lessons should we learn?

15. What other woman has a feast to offer? How is she described – 9:13?

16. How does she invite people to participate in her feast – 9:14,15?

17. Application: What can we learn from the fact that evil and foolishness invite and entice people to participate? Can Satan compel people against their will to be evil?

18. How does evil appeal to some people – 9:17? Explain.

19. Explain the concept of stolen waters in contrast to drinking from one's own fountain in sexual matters as discussed in chapter 5. What lesson should we learn?

20. What happens to those who accept the foolish woman's invitation – 9:18?

21. Application: What lesson can we learn from the fact that there are 2 feasts offered in this chapter? When God offers a blessing, what can we expect Satan to do?

Assignments on Proverbs 10

Please read Proverbs 10

1. How does the conduct of the child affect the parents – 10:1? List other passages about parents raising their children.

2. How does the Lord distinguish the righteous from the wicked – 10:2,3?

3. How is diligence better than laziness – 10:4,5? What should children learn?

4. Explain the contrast between the memory of the righteous and that of the wicked – 10:7.
Why is this so?

5. How does a truly wise man view God's commands – 10:8? Define "prate." How does this differ from wisdom?

6. How does integrity compare to perverseness – 10:9? How does this happen and why does it matter?

7. Explain how the speech of righteous people becomes a source of life – 10:11. (Think: In what sense does winking with the eye cause trouble – 10:10?)

8. How does love cover sin – 10:12? Does this mean we should simply overlook the sins of others? List other passages that help. (Think: List ways that hatred stirs up strife.)

9. How does the speech of wise people differ from that of foolish people according to 10:13,14? Explain why a fool needs a rod for his back.

10. How is the wealth of a rich man viewed in contrast to the poverty of a poor man – 10:15? But what is more important than wealth or poverty – verse 16?

11. According to 10:17, why is it important to have the proper attitude toward instruction as compared to reproof? How does this differ from the way people often think?

12. In what sense is hiding hatred a form of lying – 10:18? Why is slander foolish?

13. Application: Explain why there is danger in being a person who speaks a lot – 10:19. Is the solution to simply remain quiet – 10:20,21? Explain.

14. What can we know to be true about the blessings that God gives – 10:22? How does this differ from the way people sometimes treat one another?

15. How do foolish people often view sin – 10:23? Explain why this is a mistake.

16. What are some fears that wicked people may have that are likely to come true – 10:24,25? What are some desires that righteous people have that are likely to come true?

17. How does a lazy man's conduct affect those around him – 10:26? Give examples.

18. What blessings are described for righteous people in verses 27-29 as compared to the results of wickedness?

19. Application: List other passages that talk about inhabiting or inheriting the land or the earth, especially in the Old Testament. Explain how this was a special promise in the Old Testament, and how it would apply to us today.

20. How does the speech of the righteous compare to that of the wicked – 10:31,32? Give Examples.

Extra Study

Proverbs Study 3 – The Moral Benefits of Wisdom

Read Proverbs 2

1. How does Chapter 2 assert that a person can find protection from following wicked ways?
2. What evils are warned against, and what are the consequences of following this path?

Read Proverbs 5

3. What advice is given to help a young man avoid the sin of adultery? How is this relevant to sin in general?

Read Proverbs 6:20-7:27

4. How did the simple youth of Chapter 7 seek temptation and court disaster?

Read Colossians 3:1-17

5. What aspects of our “earthly nature” are we told to get rid of?
6. With what should we “clothe” ourselves so we can better reflect the image of God?
7. How can we do better at “embracing wisdom” rather than flirting with sin?

Recommended Reading: Proverbs 2, 5 and 6