

**Introduction**

1. About the Book of Proverbs
2. It is given to help us live wisely
3. Sin has made us all foolish

**1. THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF WISDOM**

- 1) They are referred to in 1 Cor. 1-2: they are the wisdom of the world/of God. They are opposite.
- 2) The ways in which they differ:
  - (i) man-centered v. God-centered
  - (ii) this-worldly v. other-worldly
  - (iii) the assertion of self v. self-denial
  - (iv) living for the present v. for the future
  - (v) sinful, displeasing to God v. godly
- 3) Young people must expect this difference:
  - (i) the way history is taught in school
  - (ii) the way religion is taught in school
  - (iii) peer-pressure is to be expected

**OBSERVE:** "To be carnally minded is death..."

**2. THE BOOK OF PROVERBS CONSISTS OF GODLY WISDOM**

- 1) It exposes sin for what it is + warns us:
  - (i) the life of crime: v.10f
  - (ii) the folly of having bad friends: 2:12, 16
  - (iii) the consequences of sin in the family: 3:33
  - (iv) things which God hates: 6:16-19
- 2) It tells us again + again what to do:
  - (i) where true wisdom begins: 1:7
  - (ii) the extreme importance of the Bible: 1:8
  - (iii) the need to trust in God: 3:5-6

- (iv) to value God's heavenly wisdom: 8:1ff

**APPLICATION:** You must choose in life which way to go

**3. IT SHOWS US THE END AS THE VITAL THING**

- 1) Sin and worldly mirth do not make men happy in the end
- 2) This is expressed in different ways:
  - (i) v.18: God's judgement will catch up
  - (ii) v.26: God will laugh at them
  - (iii) v.28: God will not hear their prayer
  - (iv) v.31-32: They will pay a heavy price

**OBSERVE:** So, if we are wise, we shall always remind ourselves of the end of life
- 3) This is illustrated in the Bible:
  - (i) the death of Saul
  - (ii) the death of Judas

**APPLICATION:** So Proverbs says: "Keep the end in mind"

**4. THERE ARE GREAT BLESSINGS IN BEING WISE**

- 1) We have the best of teachers: v.1
  - 2) We shall understand God's word + ways
  - 3) We shall know what to do in life
  - 4) We shall grow daily wiser in the ways of God
  - 5) We shall be preserved from many a sin in this life
  - 6) We shall be blessed in life, in death and in eternity: 3:16-18
- ILLUSTRATION:** "Tree of Life"

**PSALM**

**119: 1 – 8**

**78: 1 – 6**

**119: 97 - 102**

**CONCLUSION**

**Illustration:** Traffic Lights. When to stop + when to go.

**APPLICATION:** Pray for this wisdom!