Proverbs

Wisdom's Benefits



What is Wisdom?

Wisdom is the theme that weaves through the book of Proverbs. The main Hebrew word for wisdom is hokmah.



It was used commonly for the skill of craftsmen, sailors, singers, administrators, and counselors. Hokmah pointed to the experience and efficiency of these various workers in using their skills.

Similarly, a person who possesses hokmah in his spiritual life and relationship to God is one who is both knowledgeable and experienced in following God's way.

Biblical wisdom essentially involves skill in the art of godly living.

The Navigators. Proverbs (LifeChange) (p. 8-9). The Navigators. Kindle Edition.

Chart of Proverbs

- 1:1-7 Prologue: The purpose and theme of Proverbs is stated.
- 1:8-19 Avoid bad company
- 1:20-33 Be careful not to reject wisdom.
- 2 The way of Wisdom has many moral benefits.

- 3:1-20 Wisdom enhances every aspect of life.
- 3:21-35 Wisdom involves kindness and righteousness.
- 4 Wisdom is supreme.
- 5 Wisdom warns against adultery.
- 6:1-19 Wisdom warns about the futility of folly.

6:20-35 Wisdom warns against sexual immorality.

- 7 Wisdom warns against the enticing adulteress.
- 8 Wisdom's call is issued to all mankind.
- 9 Both wisdom and folly invite men to their "homes."

The Navigators. Proverbs (LifeChange) (p. 26).
The Navigators. Kindle Edition.

Proverbs 3:1-12 (NET)

1 My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, 2 for they will provide a long and full life, and wellbeing for you.

3 Do not let mercy and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. 4 Then you will find favor and good understanding, in the sight of God and people.

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. 6 Acknowledge him in all your ways, and he will make your paths straight.

7 Do not be wise in your own estimation; fear the Lord and turn away from evil. 8 This will bring healing to your body, and refreshment to your inner self.

9 Honor the Lord from your wealth and from the firstfruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled completely, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

11 My child, do not despise discipline from the Lord, and do not loathe his rebuke. 12 For the Lord disciplines those he loves, just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights.

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

1 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.