

PROVERBS

*Author: Solomon with other
wisdom men of Israel
Date: 10th century B.C.
Place: Jerusalem
Occasion: Wisdom literature
Purpose: To instruct the young
man in the ways of wisdom
and righteousness.*

*1. Fatherly Exhortation
Mainly to the Young, 1-9*

- 1 THE PROVERBS OF Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel.
- 2 To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding;
- 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, *prudence*, and justice, and equity, *prudence*; and will give to the young man knowledge and discretion.
- 4 To give a young man knowledge and discretion.
- 5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.
- 6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the LORD, and their dark sayings.

Wisdom's foundation: the fear of the LORD

- 7 The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the LORD; but fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- 8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother;
- 9 For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.
- 10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.
- 11 If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk

*(1:1) Most of the proverbs come from Solomon in the 10th century B.C., though some were copied from his other writings later (25:1; cp. 1 Ki.4:32); others were by Aqur (the King Lemuel (ch. 31).
1:7) "Fool" in Scripture does not denote a mentally deficient person, but rather one arrogant and self-sufficient, one who orders his life as if there were no God. See e.g. 14:9. The rich man was not mentally deficient, but he was a "fool" because he supposed that he could live on the things in the barn, giving no thought to his eternal well-being.*

14. For these things will I hate in mine house: he that soweth discord, he that soweth division, he that soweth strife, he that soweth discord, he that soweth division, he that soweth strife.

20. Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets, in the concourse, in the words; saying, How long will ye love simplicity, and hate knowledge?

21. Turn you out of my reproach, ye simple ones, that ye may not hate knowledge.

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