

Know the God of Scripture

Volume 1

Week 29: Seek Godly Wisdom - Answer Guide

Below is the answer guide for this week's lesson. By no means are the answers complete or the only possible responses to each question. They are a guide to fully understanding the intent of the questions posed.

1. True wisdom comes when one fears the Lord (Proverbs 1:7) and, like most Jews, these men revered the Old Testament Word of God. It seems evident they desired to amplify the words of the sages in their writings and reiterate their significance to living the godly life and pursuing holiness.

- In Romans 3:15 and 12:16, Paul uses Proverbs to allude to the wicked tendencies of man.
- In Hebrews 12:5-6, the author uses Proverbs to remind his audience of the reason for the Lord's discipline.
- In James 4:6, James employs the wisdom found in Proverbs to warn his audience to resist the proud and stay humble in their service. For God's grace abounds.
- In 1 Peter 2:17, the author reminds his audience that the beginning of wisdom is to fear (revere) the Lord.

2. Chapter 7 exposes the immortality of an impure woman. In contrast Proverbs 8 & 9 expound upon lady wisdom, a more beautiful woman. Unlike the impure woman who entices young men to follow her to the depths of hell, lady wisdom encourages young men to follow the path of nobility, integrity and fidelity. Wisdom hates evil, a prerequisite to fearing the Lord. For the one who finds her finds life and obtains favor from the LORD.

3. Like Jesus, wisdom calls out to mankind to heed its virtues. Both are better than "things" of this earth. Like Christ, wisdom hates sin and flees evil. Jesus was begotten, wisdom was brought forth. He who gives their life to Christ ("he who finds me" in Psalm 8:35) will obtain everlasting life and find favor with God.

However, do not think that Jesus IS wisdom, but rather epitomizes or accentuates wisdom. Reference text box on notes page 135.

4. Below are references in Proverbs to the proposed subjects:

Managing Finances: 11:7, 15, 24, 28; 13:22; 15:16-17; 17:18; 21:5; 22:7

Stress & Anxiety: 12:25; 14:30; 15:13; 17:22; 18:6, 14

Raising Children: 10:17; 12:1; 13:24; 15:5, 10, 32; 17:6, 25; 19:18, 20, 26; 22:6

Treating the Poor: 14:21, 31; 17:5; 19:7; 22:22-23

Dealing with People: 10:12, 18; 12:18; 13:10; 13:20; 14:7, 17; 15:1-4, 18; 15:28; 16:7, 21, 24, 32; 17:9, 13, 27; 18:13, 19, 24; 20:3; 21:23

Working Hard & Planning Life: 10:4-5, 16; 11:14; 12:11, 14; 13:11; 14:12, 23; 15:22; 16:2-3, 9; 18:9; 19:15, 21; 20:4, 13, 24; 21:1

Pride & Patience: 11:2-3; 18:12

Integrity: 10:9; 11:1, 13; 14:2; 16:11; 19:11; 20:7, 10, 23; 22:1

Marriage: 12:4; 13:12; 14:1; 17:1; 18:22; 19:13-14

5. Like a godly parent who disciplines their children, God disciplines those He loves (Proverbs 3:11, 12:1, 13:1). What may seem harsh in the moment is good for our souls and promotes growth. Divine discipline reinforces the concept of accountability for our actions. It also demonstrates God's love toward those who are His children. Likewise, if you're not disciplined, you're not loved (Proverbs 13:24). Fools reject or despise wisdom and discipline and do not see it for what it really is.

6. Proverbs emphasizes that stress weighs on the heart (Proverbs 12:25, 13:12). Pleasant words, on the other hand, encourage us all (Proverbs 12:25, 16:24).

7. A good name is the reputation a person has as determined by the speech and actions others observe. A good name reflects a person whose heart is completely God's and is used to further His will. God wanted Israel to have a good name, to reflect His glory, so other nations would see Him through them and come to know Him. It is better to pursue godliness and personify a good name than it is to acquire useless things on this earth.

8. God moves the hearts of kings (Proverbs 21:1) throughout Scripture. This link has several references:

https://www.openbible.info/topics/hearts_of_kings_are_controlled_by_god

God often conceals His actions (Proverbs 25:2) to accomplish His will. This is where trust and faith play a role in our relationship with God.

Additional Questions:

1. King Solomon was the wisest king known in history because God granted him heavenly wisdom. His wisdom was known throughout the world, so much so that people traveled vast distances to hear him. That being said, King Solomon was the only truly qualified person, blessed with God's wisdom, to author Proverbs.

2. Refer to text box on notes page 135 for this answer.

3. Answers will vary depending on personal experience.

4. Answers will vary depending on personal experience.

