

This is a continuation of the second section of this book (Chapters 10-29) that contains a series of individual wise sayings. *There is often little direct connection from one verse to the next* – they may speak of *totally different areas* of life. However, note the constant contrast between the “wise” and the “foolish”; the “righteous” and the “wicked”. The righteous and the wise are those who are believers, righteous and wise by faith. The foolish and the wicked are those who are unbelievers and reflect their unbelief in foolish decisions in life.

Since Christians are Saints and Sinners at the same time, when the Holy Spirit rules in our lives we are able to reflect God’s wisdom but when our sinful flesh rules in our lives we see the sin and foolishness that follows. These wise sayings are intended as a warning for our sinful flesh and instruction for believers (for the new man) who know the love of God in Christ and desire to better reflect God’s wisdom in their lives.

Chapter 15

Verses 1,2,4,7,18,23,28,30 The words of the Christian should reflect a “gentleness”. See also Phil 4:5 What is the contrast between the speaking of the wise and the foolish?

Verses 5,10,12,31,32 What do these verses teach us about the need for discipline and the consequence of failing to heed discipline?

Verse 33 What is the source of real wisdom? Which is more important, humility or honor?
See also 16:18,19

What other passages provided insight into life for you?

Chapter 16

Verses 1,9,25 What do we learn of “our plans”?

Verse 2 Which is most important, the outward action or motive? Will the “right motive” make an act of sin any less sin? See also 21:3

Verse 28 What do we learn of the consequence of “evil whispering”? About avoiding those who do such? See also 11:13; 17: 4,9; 18:8; 20:19; 26:20

What other passages provided insight into life for you?

Chapter 17

Verses 1,16 What does this teach us about choosing a marriage partner and about family?
See also 18:22; 19:14

Verse 22 What does this teach us about our life attitude that we convey to others?
Why In Christ is the Christian best suited to see the “glass of life as half full”? (18: 14)

What other passages provided insight into life for you?

Chapter 18

Verse 10 What is our source of security and strength? See also Psalm 46

What other passages provided insight into life for you?

Chapter 19

Verses 5,9,28,29 What do we learn about the “false witness”?

Verses 18, 25 What do we learn of the need for discipline? Of failing to discipline?

What other passages provided insight into life for you?

Chapter 20

Verse 1 what should this tell us about the American “drinking culture”?

Verse 9 What is the problem if we claim to have no sin? See also I Jn 1:8,10

Verse 21 What does this tell us about “easy money”? Give examples of areas that we can be tempted to try to get “easy money”.

What other passages provided insight into life for you?

Chapter 21

Verse 5,17,20,25,26 What is the contrast between the “diligent” and those who are foolish?

Verse 13 Are we our “brother’s keeper”? What can the one who has no compassion also expect?

Verse 30 God is in control. We often fail to accept that truth. See Acts 5:33ff What are we reminded of in this verse? Why do we so often struggle with accepting this truth?

What other passages provided insight into life for you?

Other Personal Notes: