

# COUNSELING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

## Part 9 – Proverbs 14:18-15:33

Series 10 – A Live Interactive Study  
In Proverbs  
with Dr. Christopher Cone

# Background of **Proverbs**

- Titled in the Hebrew, *sepher mish'le'i*, the meaning is literally *book of proverbs*.
- Several of the authors are named within the book: Solomon, Hezekiah's men, Agur, and King Lemuel.
- The book was probably compiled either by Hezekiah's men around 700 BC, or by a later redactor such as Ezra or the like.

# A Collection of Wisdom

- Proverbs is a collection of inspired, wise sayings
- Note the authority cited by 4 NT writers (who accounted for at least 16 of the 27 NT books)
  - Proverbs 3:11 in Hebrews 12:5-6
  - Proverbs 3:34 in James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5
  - Proverbs 10:12 in James 5:20, 1 Peter 4:8
  - Proverbs 11:31 in 1 Peter 4:18
  - Proverbs 22:8 in 2 Corinthians 9:7
  - Proverbs 25:21 in Romans 12:20
- Because it is a collection, we will handle it here exegetically *and* topically (verse by verse in topical context).

# PROVERBS

# Outline of Proverbs

## Proverbs: The Wisdom of Righteousness

Proverbs of Solomon: To His Son	1-4	Heed Wisdom
	5	Avoid Adultery
	6	Of Diligence, Worth, & Purity
	7	Avoid Immorality
	8-9	Wisdom vs. Foolishness
Proverbs of Solomon	10-18	The Righteous vs. The Wicked
	10-24	19-24 General Instruction
Proverbs of Solomon: Transcribed by Hezekiah's Men 25-29	25-26	Moral Comparatives
	27-29	General Instruction
30	Words of Agur to Ithiel & Ucal	
The Oracle of King Lemuel's Mother	31:1-9	The Excellent King
	31	31:10-31 The Excellent Wife



# Purpose Statement for **Proverbs**

To know wisdom and instruction, to discern the sayings of understanding, to receive instruction in wise behavior, righteousness, justice, and equity; to give prudence to the naïve, to the youth knowledge and discretion, a wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel, to understand a proverb and a figure, the words of the wise and their riddles (1:2-6)



# Theme of Proverbs

“the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction” (1:7)...For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth comes wisdom and understanding” (2:6).



# Worldview Implications of **Proverbs**

Socio-Political

Sociopraxy

Ethics

For Believers  
For Unbelievers

Metaphysics

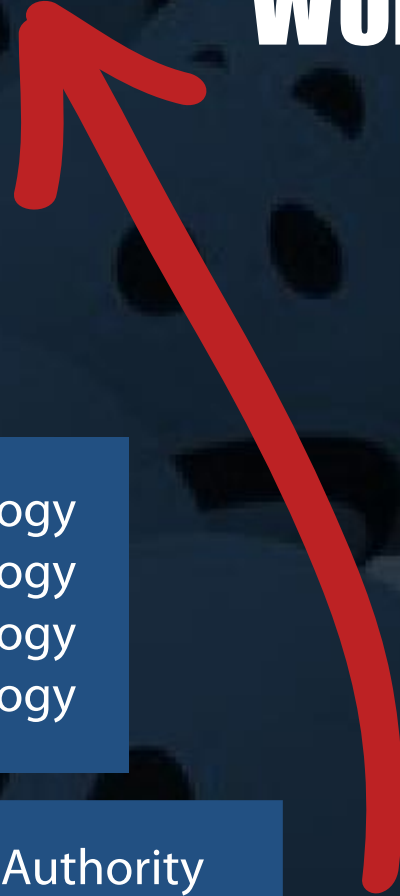
Eschatology  
Teleology  
Axiology  
Ontology

Epistemology

Interpreting Authority  
Source of Authority

ought

is





# Methodology of this Study

**Step 1** – As Proverbs provides wisdom, instruction, sayings of understanding, and instruction in wise behavior (1:1-3a), we will **exegete each individual proverb** in its own context.

**Step 2** – We will identify each individual proverb's **thematic emphasis as counsel**.

**Step 3** – We will **categorize each proverb** into an area of counseling to develop an approach for practically applying the Proverbs

**Step 4** – We will seek to be wise people who listen to counsel, as in Proverbs 12:15





# Foundational Principle: Meaning ≠ Significance

Step 1 – Observe

Step 2 – Interpret

Step 3 – Correlate/Confirm

Step 4 – Apply

Primary Application – how the original audience applied the content, one application (if in the text), and often is part of the meaning of the passage

Secondary Application – how we apply the content, there can be many applications. this is *significance*.

Secondary application is not part of the passage's *meaning*.



# One Way to Apply **Proverbs**



“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But a wise man is he who listens **to counsel.**”  
– Proverbs 12:15

# Some Thematic Emphases / Counseling Topics

- Identity, Purpose, Priorities Counseling
- Depression and Anxiety Counseling
- Pre-Marital and Marital Counseling
- Parental/Children Counseling
- Financial/Stewardship Counseling
- Addiction Counseling
- Abuse and Trauma Counseling
- Conflict Counseling





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Your Assignment: Highlight and Categorize Every Verse In Proverbs Using Eight Colors:





# Counseling Content (Some Secondary Applications)

## Proverbs 14:17-15:33

Identity, Purpose, Priorities Counseling (14:18-19,22,27,31,32-34, 15:3,7-8,9,11,14,21-22,24-26,28,33)

Depression and Anxiety Counseling (15:8,9,13,15,23,29,30)

Pre-Marital and Marital Counseling

Parental/Children Counseling (15:5,10,12,20,31-32)

Financial/Stewardship Counseling (14:23-24,15:6,16-17,19,27)

Addiction Counseling

Abuse and Trauma Counseling (14:19,26, 15:3,29,30)

Conflict Counseling (15:1-2,4,7,18,23,26,28)

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