**An Expositional Study in Proverbs - Lesson #1 Handout**

*“24 Then David comforted his wife, Bathsheba, and went in to her and lay with her, and she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. And the LORD loved him 25 and sent a message by Nathan the prophet. So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.” (2Sa 12:24-25 ESV)*

*“The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:” (Pr 1:1 ESV)*

*“The proverbs of Solomon...” (Pr 10:1a ESV)*

*“29 ¶ And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, 30 so that Solomon’s wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 For he was wiser than all other men, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol, and his fame was in all the surrounding nations. 32 He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005. 33 He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish. 34 And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.” (1Ki 4:29-34 ESV)*

*“10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. 11 And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, 12 behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. 13 I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. 14 And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."” (1Ki 3:10-14 ESV)*

**The Ten Speeches from the Father:**

The **first** from the father – **1:8-19**

The **second** from the father – **2:1-2:22**

The **third** from the father – **3:1–12**

The **fourth** from the father – **3:21-35**

The **fifth** from the father – **4:1-9**

The **sixth** from the father – **4:10-19**

The **seventh** from the father – **4:20-27**

The **eight** from the father – **5:1-23**

The **nineth** from the father – **6:1-35**

The **tenth** from the father – **7:1-27** (the final and most intense of all!)

**The Four Speeches from Lady Wisdom**:

The **first** from lady wisdom – **1:20-33**

The **second** from lady wisdom – **3:13-20**

The **third** from lady wisdom – **8:1-36** – Proverbs 8 is worthy of special mention because of the way **wisdom is personified**, I will give you just a **sample now:** *“27 When he* (Yahweh) *established the heavens, I* (Lady Wisdom) *was there; when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, 28 when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, 29 when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, 30 then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, 31 rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of man.” (Pr 8:27-31 ESV)*

The **fourth** from lady wisdom – **9:1-18**

*“17 ¶ Incline your ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply your heart to my knowledge, 18 for it will be pleasant if you keep them within you, if all of them are ready on your lips. 19 That your trust may be in the LORD, I have made them known to you today, even to you. 20 Have I not written for you thirty sayings of counsel and knowledge,” (Pr 22:17-20 ESV)*

*These also are sayings of the wise...” (Pr 24:23a ESV)*

*“These also are proverbs of Solomon which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied.” (Pr 25:1 ESV)*

*“The words of Agur son of Jakeh. The oracle...” (Pr 30:1a ESV)*

*“The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him:” (Pr 31:1 ESV)*

**Paul said it this way to the church in Corinth:**

*“7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.” (1Co 2:7-8 ESV)*

**Or this way to the church in Corinth:**

Speaking of Christ: *“in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” (Col 2:3 ESV)*

*“****1*** *¶ The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:* ***2*** *To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight,* ***3*** *to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity;* ***4*** *to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth —* ***5*** *Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance,* ***6*** *to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles.* ***7*** *¶ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

***8*** *Hear, my son, your father’s instruction, and forsake not your mother’s teaching,* ***9*** *for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.* ***10*** *¶ My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.* ***11*** *If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood; let us ambush the innocent without reason;* ***12*** *like Sheol let us swallow them alive, and whole, like those who go down to the pit;* ***13*** *we shall find all precious goods, we shall fill our houses with plunder;* ***14*** *throw in your lot among us; we will all have one purse" —* ***15*** *my son, do not walk in the way with them; hold back your foot from their paths,* ***16*** *for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood.* ***17*** *For in vain is a net spread in the sight of any bird,* ***18*** *but these men lie in wait for their own blood; they set an ambush for their own lives.* ***19*** *Such are the ways of everyone who is greedy for unjust gain; it takes away the life of its possessors.*

***20*** *¶ Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice;* ***21*** *at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:* ***22*** *"How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?* ***23*** *If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you.* ***24*** *Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded,* ***25*** *because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof,* ***26*** *I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you,* ***27*** *when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.* ***28*** *Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me.* ***29*** *Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,* ***30*** *would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof,* ***31*** *therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way, and have their fill of their own devices.* ***32*** *For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them;* ***33*** *but whoever listens to me will dwell secure and will be at ease, without dread of disaster."” (Pr 1:1-33 ESV)*