



“FIRST THINGS FIRST: HOUSE RULES”

PROVERBS 1:7 BIBLE STUDY

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CONTEXT
THE INTRODUCTION
OF PROVERBS

- The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: (Pr 1:1, AT)

CONTEXT
THE INTRODUCTION
OF PROVERBS

- 2 To learn **wisdom** and **discipline**,
To understand words of **insight**
- 3 To acquire the **discipline** of **good judgment**,
righteousness, **justice**, and **fairness**
- 4 To give **prudence** to the naïve,
knowledge and **discretion** to the young (Pr 1:2-4, AT)

CONTEXT
THE INTRODUCTION
OF PROVERBS

- 5 The wise will listen and **increase in learning**,
the one who understands will get **guidance**
- 6 To understand proverb and parable,
the sayings of the wise and their riddles
(Pr 1:5-6, AT)

THE MOTTO OF PROVERBS

The **fear of the LORD [YHWH]** is the **beginning** of knowledge,
but wisdom and discipline fools despise
(Pr 1:7, AT)

The **fear of the LORD [YHWH]** is the **beginning** of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Pr 9:10, NIV)



THE MOTTO OF PROVERBS

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;

but a woman who **fears the LORD [YHWH]** is to be praised.

(Pr 31:30, NIV)

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FEAR OF THE LORD [YHWH]

The reward for humility and **fear of the LORD [YHWH]**
is **riches and honor and life.** (Pr 22:4, ESV)

The **fear of the LORD [YHWH] adds length to life,**
but the years of the wicked are cut short. (Pr 10:27, NIV)

The **fear of the LORD [YHWH] is a fountain of life,**
turning a person from the snares of **death.** (Pr 14:27, NIV)

The **fear of the LORD [YHWH] leads to life;**
then one rests content, **untouched by trouble.** (Pr 19:23, NIV)

THE GENRE OF PROVERBS: RIGHT WORDS, RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

A person finds joy in giving an apt reply—

and how good is a **timely** word! (Pr 15:23, NIV)

If anyone loudly **blesses** their neighbor early in the morning,

it will be taken as a **curse**. (Pr 27:14, NIV)

THE GENRE OF PROVERBS:
RIGHT WORDS,
RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

Do not answer a fool according to his folly,

or you yourself will be just like him. (Pr 26:4, NIV)

THE GENRE OF PROVERBS:
RIGHT WORDS,
RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

Do not give what is **holy** to **dogs**,
nor throw your **pearls** before **pigs**,
lest they **trample** them under their feet
and turn and tear you to pieces. (Mt 7:6, AT)

THE GENRE OF PROVERBS:
RIGHT WORDS,
RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

7 Whoever corrects a mocker **invites insults**;

whoever rebukes the wicked **incurs abuse**.

8 Do **not rebuke mockers** or they will **hate you**;

rebuke the wise and they will **love you**.

(Pr 9:7-8, NIV)



THE GENRE OF PROVERBS:
RIGHT WORDS,
RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES



Stay away from a fool,

for you will not find knowledge on their lips.

(Pr 14:7, NIV)

THE GENRE OF PROVERBS:
RIGHT WORDS,
RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

Better for a man to meet a **bear robbed of her cubs**
than a fool in his foolishness. (Pr 17:12, HCSB)

THE GENRE OF PROVERBS:
RIGHT WORDS,
RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

Do not answer a fool according to his folly,
or you yourself will be just like him.
(Pr 26:4, NIV)

Answer a fool according to his folly,
or he will be wise in his own eyes. (Pr 26:5, NIV)

THE GENRE OF PROVERBS:
RIGHT WORDS,
RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

Like the **useless legs** of one who is **lame**

is a **proverb in the mouth of a fool**. (Pr 26:7, NIV)

Like a **thornbush** in a **drunkard's hand**

is a **proverb in the mouth of a fool**. (Pr 26:9, NIV)

THE FEAR OF THE LORD [YHWH]: A BIBLICAL THEME

The fear of the LORD [YHWH] is the beginning of wisdom;
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.
To him belongs eternal praise. (Ps 111:10, NIV)

And he said to the human race,

**“The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom,
and to shun evil is understanding.”** (Job 28:28, NIV)

THE FEAR
OF THE LORD [YHWH]:
A BIBLICAL THEME

- 1 Blessed are all who **fear the LORD [YHWH]**,
who **walk in obedience** to him.
 - 2 You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be yours.
- (Ps 128:1-2, NIV)

FEAR AND LOVE
THE LORD?

- **Love the LORD [YHWH] your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.”**
(Dt 6:5, AT; cf. Mt 22:37)

FEAR AND LOVE THE LORD?

- 12 And now, Israel, what does the LORD [YHWH] your God ask of you but to **fear the LORD [YHWH] your God**, to walk in **obedience** to him, to **love** him, to **serve** the LORD [YHWH] your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to **observe** the LORD's [YHWH] **commands** and **decrees** that I am giving you today **for your own good?**

FEAR AND LOVE
THE LORD?

- **Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. (1 Cor 13:6, NIV)**

FEAR AND LOVE
THE LORD?

- **Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. (Rom 12:9, NIV)**

FEAR AND LOVE THE LORD?

Let those who **love the LORD [YHWH] hate evil,**
for he guards the lives of his faithful ones
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
(Ps 97:10, NIV)

FEAR AND LOVE THE LORD?

To fear the LORD [YHWH] is to hate evil;
I hate pride and arrogance,
evil behavior and perverse speech.
(Pr 8:13, NIV)

FEAR AND LOVE THE LORD?

- **If you love me, keep my commands.**
(Jn 14:15, NIV)
- **Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”** (Jn 14:21, NIV)

FEAR AND LOVE THE LORD?

- 23 Jesus replied, “**Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching.** My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24 **Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching.** These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. (Jn 14:23-24, NIV; cf. Jn 15:14; 1 Jn 5:2-3)

FEAR AND LOVE
THE LORD?

- **Love the LORD [YHWH] your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always. (Dt 11:1, NIV)**

FEARING AND RIGHTLY RELATING TO THE LORD

- Then the LORD [YHWH] said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, **so that they may worship me.** (Ex 8:1, NIV)

FEARING AND RIGHTLY RELATING TO THE LORD

- 1 Then God spoke all these words, saying: 2 I am the LORD [YHWH] your God **who brought you out of the land of Egypt**, out of the house of slavery [lit. servants]. (Ex 20:1-2, AT)

THE BEGINNING OF KNOWLEDGE

The fear of the LORD [YHWH] is the beginning of **wisdom**,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
(Pr 9:10, NIV)

THE FOOL VS. THE WISE

The **wise** in heart accept commands,
but a chattering **fool** comes to **ruin**. (Pr 10:8, NIV)

The **wise** store up knowledge,
but the mouth of a **fool** invites **ruin**. (Pr 10:14, NIV)

A **fool's** mouth lashes out with pride,
but the lips of the **wise** protect them. (Pr 14:3, NIV)



THE FOOL VS. THE WISE



Even **fools** are thought **wise** if they keep silent,
and discerning if they hold their tongues.
(Pr 17:28, NIV)





THE FOOL VS. THE WISE



**Fools find no pleasure in understanding
but delight in airing their own opinions.
(Pr 18:2, NIV)**



THE FOOL VS.
THE WISE

**The way of fools seems right to them,
but the wise listen to advice.
(Pr 12:15, NIV)**

SPIRITUAL EDUCATION, TRAINING

- Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the **discipline and instruction** of the Lord. (Eph 6:4, ESV)

WISDOM'S BENEFITS

**13 Blessed are those who find wisdom,
those who gain understanding,
14 for she is more profitable than silver
and yields better returns than gold.
15 She is more precious than rubies;
nothing you desire can compare with her.**
(Pr 3:13-15, NIV)

WISDOM'S BENEFITS

- 16 **Long life** is in her right hand;
in her left hand are **riches** and **honor**.
- 17 Her ways are pleasant ways,
and all her paths are **peace**.
- 18 She is a **tree of life** to those who take hold of her;
those who hold her fast will be **blessed**.
- (Pr 3:16-18, NIV)



WISDOM'S BENEFITS



Do not forsake wisdom, and she will **protect you**;
love her, and she will **watch over you**.
(Pr 4:6, NIV)



WISDOM'S BENEFITS

5 Trust in the LORD [YHWH] with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
6 in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight
(Pr 3:5-6, NIV)

WISDOM'S BENEFITS

- 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD [YHWH] and shun evil.**
- 8 This will bring health to your body
and nourishment to your bones**
- (Pr 3:7-8, NIV)**

WISDOM'S (EVER-)LASTING BENEFITS

- 7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, **train yourself to be godly.** 8 For **physical training** is of some value, but **godliness** has value for all things, holding promise for both the **present life** and the **life to come.** (1 Tim 4:7-8, NIV)

WISDOM'S (EVER-)LASTING BENEFITS

Whoever fears the LORD [YHWH] has a secure fortress,
and for their **children** it will be a refuge.

(Pr 14:26, NIV; cf. Pr 20:7)