



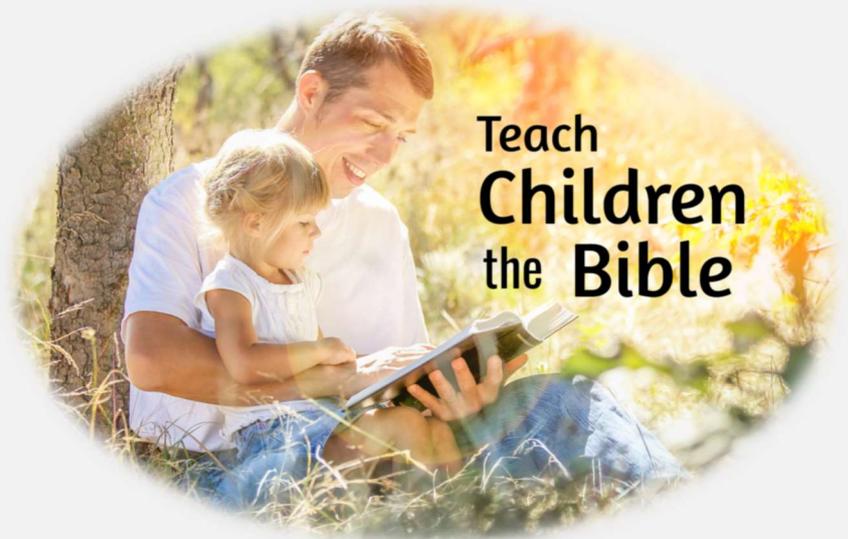
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Proverbs 22

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Proverbs 22.

Topics.

- This chapter is full of a variety of various Proverbs.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Proverbs is a collection of Israelite wisdom literature, that has multiple authors, but most of it is attributed to King Solomon. Chapter one to nine gives readers a framework for understanding the rest of the book. The central concern of the book of Proverbs is practical wisdom for living. We are told that the beginning and essence of wisdom is the fear of the LORD (Prov. 1:7) (Prov. 9:10). It contrasts the benefits of seeking wisdom and the pitfalls of living a foolish life. While the wicked stumble in deep darkness (Prov. 4:19), the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day ((Prov. 4:18). Individual proverbs date from between the tenth and sixth centuries B.C.

KINGS AND ANGELS

The title king is often used throughout the book of Proverbs, it comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) which can refer to the following four things:

1. A royal king ascending to the throne of royalty and reigning from it.
2. A male sovereign (i.e., a man or boy who rules as a monarch over an independent state.
3. The chief, or the principal leader or ruler of a group (secular or religious).
4. A messenger or ambassador, especially of God, (i.e. an angel, a king, a prophet, a priest or a teacher).
5. The best, the strongest and the wisest of all.

It is interesting to notice in the first verse of proverbs (Prov. 1:1) the word king comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) and the first mention of an angel in the Bible also comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) (Gen. 16:7). This means when the title king is used in the book of Proverbs it carries the idea of a wise king that does good unless the context implies otherwise. For further information concerning angels see the title: "Angels," (ON WEBSITE MENU).

PROVERBS 22:1

- **Proverbs 22:1:** A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

This carries the idea that it is far better to be a person of integrity and honesty and one who adheres to good ethics and moral principles and seeks the approval and favour of man and of God than to forsake all these things to gain riches and wealth by dishonesty lies and deceit. Those who

do what is good and right are guaranteed to receive an eternal reward. In contrast to this those who get rich and wealthy through dishonesty, deception, lying and cheating will be condemned to the lake of fire a symbol of eternal death (i.e., total destruction and utter extinction). It is interesting to notice that nearly all New Testament verses that speak about literal riches and wealth speak about it negatively, but this does not mean that it is wrong for a Christian to be rich and wealthy. When the Bible speaks of money negatively it is not the money that is sinful (it is neither good nor bad since it is just paper) rather it is the love of money that is sinful for two reasons:

1. Because the affections are set on money and profit rather than on God and those who love money trust in their abundant wealth rather than upon God for their inner joy, contentment, comfort and security.
2. Because the outward manifestation of the love of money is selfish-ambition, greed and indulgent luxurious living, those who love money spend it to gratify self, ego, pride and greed rather than use their abundance to help the poor and less fortunate and for this reason their wealth will be their undoing. They may remain saved to eternal life, but there is no-doubt they will suffer loss at the judgment seat of Christ as Paul taught in the following verses:
 - If anyone builds on the foundation (the Lord Jesus Christ) with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, they will receive a reward, but if anyone's work is burned up, they will suffer loss, though they themselves will be saved, but only as through fire (1 Cor. 3:12-15).

Money is not sinful or evil it can be used for good or for bad, to help the poor or to spoil and pamper oneself in an indulgent lifestyle, it is the purpose it is used for that determines whether the money is good or bad, not the money itself. There are no-doubt certain brothers and sisters in the family of Christ who God has blessed with a business mind and the skills needed to turn everything they do into great success and great wealth.

For those who are humble before God and have the Spirit of Christ this is a great blessing since they are then able to extend the Kingdom of God by supporting those gifted in proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel of Christ and are also able to help the poor in ways that many of us are unable to do. When riches and abundance of money is used in this fashion it is storing up eternal treasures in heaven for those who have not set their hearts upon greed and profit, but used their blessing to advance God Kingdom and help the poor.

PROVERBS 22:2

- **Proverbs 22:2:** The rich and the poor meet together; the LORD is the maker of them all.

This carries the idea that God is the creator of the rich and the poor the noble and the lowly, male and female, Jew and Gentile and all will stand before Him at judgment. When it comes to judgment the rich have no advantage over the poor, both will stand together and be judged according to their love for God and according to their behaviour good or bad.

PROVERBS 22:3

- **Proverbs 22:3:** The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.

This verse carries the following two ideas:

1. Those with good sense perceive signs of anger and violent behaviour and flee from the potential danger before it begins.
2. Those who have good sense carefully consider the likely consequences in any decision and see the potential problems, then take the action that will give the best result and avoid any dangers in the future.

PROVERBS 22:4

- **Proverbs 22:4:** The reward for humility and fear of the LORD is riches and honor and life.

Those who are humble and fear the LORD will inherit eternal life and everlasting happiness in glory. The reason a person is told to fear the LORD is because all humans have sinned and will one-day be judged by God. This fear should motivate all of us to seek God and his eternal salvation and forgiveness. This is why the Bible says the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom it motivates a person to seek God and His forgiveness. The apostle John in his letter wrote:

- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:8-10).

The fear of the LORD has the following two aspects:

- 1 An eternal aspect: wisdom teaches that mankind is separated from God because of sin and without God a person has no hope of eternal life and will be judged accordingly. The fear of the LORD in this context is wisdom because it motivates a person to seek God and eternal life.
- 2 An aspect for the present moment: the fear of the LORD in the present moment motivates mankind to obey God's Ten Commandments which are all designed to protect the innocent from harm, physically, financially, sexually, verbally, emotionally and spiritually (summed up they mean do-good and not harm). The fear of the LORD in this context is also wisdom because if everyone feared the LORD humanity would live in harmony with each other. Sadly, there is very little fear of the LORD in the world today and so we see rampant rebellion, violence, crime and wars in most countries.

The fear of God and Christians: those in Christ look to the bloodstained cross of Calvary and understand and experience Christ's great love and God's grace in their hearts and minds and no longer act from fear, but from love in the same way that a man in love with a woman does not do things to please her from fear, but from the love dwelling in his heart. Likewise, it is with the faithful who belong to the Lords global family.

- The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. (Prov. 8:13).

The fear of the LORD is hatred toward evil: it is having a hatred of everything that harms another human physically, financially, sexually, emotionally, or spiritually and having a strong dislike of anything that destroys the planet and of whoever treats animals cruelly. God loves humans He gave his only Son to die for them. The fear of the LORD is about protecting and preventing harm to other humans. It is about knowing we are all going to stand before Him one day and give an account of our actions. The fear of this judgment should motivate a person to do the right thing and treat others with respect.

PROVERBS 22:5

- **Proverbs 22:5:** Thorns and snares are in the way of the crooked; whoever guards his soul will keep far from them.

Trouble, distress, anxiety and grief will come to the wicked, whoever wants to avoid these things will stay away from the wicked and those who do wrong.

PROVERBS 22:6

- **Proverbs 22:6:** Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Train: comes from the Hebrew word (*chanak*) and carries the idea of initiating discipline to train and teach a child the right way to go.

Discipline: comes from the Hebrew word (*muwcar*) it means to chastise, punish, reproof, restrain, warn, instruct correct, reform and teach it carries the idea of instructing and correcting so as to warn and prevent a person from harm in the future. Without loving discipline, a child is robbed from learning self-control and the right way to go. Permitting a child to indulgence in whatever they wish to do and as they please will allow sinful habits to gather strength which will bring sorrow and misery to them and their parents later in life. A child without discipline will grow into a teenager that will fall into all sorts of trouble because they have not learned self-control, or to rule over their own emotions. Every parent who cares about their child's wellbeing and their future, will take the time to discipline their children in love (not anger) and make the effort to correct and train them in the right way and what, is good, proper and acceptable behaviour. Discipline is not about cruelly beating a child, even God is against that. It carries the idea of making the child aware that what they are doing is wrong. It only takes a gentle smack on the backside for a child to get the message and learn that whatever behaviour they were doing will bring them harm in the future. Obviously, a gentle smack is not the only form of discipline that is effective. Many people have great success with other types of discipline. It is the principal that is important, not the method or what is used to carry it out. Today it is almost certain if a child was given the choice of a smack given in love (in contrast to anger) or have their iPad, computer or mobile phone taken off them for two days they would choose the smack. To deny a child of some form of effective discipline is to ruin their lives, that is why Solomon says train up a child in the way they should go; even when they are old they will not depart from it. No parent likes to discipline their children, but they know that it is going to protect their child in the future and without correction the child is not going to learn self-control or what good and acceptable behaviour is. The statement, "Train up a child in the way they should go and they will not depart from it," does not mean to legalistically rule over them as a task master, the discipline of the LORD has to be balanced with love and parents need to live honestly before their children. A common mistake for Christian parents is to never show their children their faults. They feel they have to appear holy and righteous so they put on a religious facade, but children perceive the hypocrisy and in teenage years are likely to rebel. Those who are raised in love and disciplined in love may through their teenage years do some things their parents wished they did not, but at the core of their being they will remain the good and decent person they have been raised in love to be.

PROVERBS 22:7

- **Proverbs 22:7:** The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

Whoever borrows money becomes the slave of the one they have borrowed it from, especially if they have over borrowed and are struggling to make the payments. Most in the West today have to borrow money if

they are going to ever own a home, it is not a sin to borrow money, but it is enormously unwise if the debt is so great that it puts oppression on the family. The truth contained in this verse is not limited to individuals, but applies to nations, countries, governments and churches.

PROVERBS 22:8

- **Proverbs 22:8:** Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail.

The expression, "whoever sows injustice," refers to the following three groups:

1. Those who twist and distort justice to cheat others out of what is rightfully theirs.
2. Those who lie when testifying in a court of law to save a family member or friend.
3. Those who treat others unfairly, harshly and cruelly.

Trouble will come to all who treat others with such injustice for selfish gain. The expression, "the rod of his fury will fail," means the authority and power of those who sow injustice will ultimately come to a crushing end.

PROVERBS 22:9

- **Proverbs 22:9:** Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

People that are generous to the poor will be blessed and happy. God has designed the laws of the universe and human nature in such a way that giving to the helpless and the poor brings happiness to the heart of the giver. Many of the rich and famous have not learnt this truth and therefore spend their abundant wealth on mega million dollar homes, indulgent lifestyles, parties, gambling and drugs all to find happiness, when all they would have to do is give to the poor and see the joy their help has brought to the helpless and they would experience far more joy within their heart and mind than they ever will spending their excessive wealth on worldly possessions and indulgent lifestyles.

PROVERBS 22:10

- **Proverbs 22:10:** Drive out a scoffer (scorner in KJV) and strife will go out, and quarreling and abuse will cease.

Scoffer (scorner in KJV) comes from the Hebrew word (*luwts*) and means to make mouths it carries the idea of ridiculing and showing others disrespect by mocking and scorning (i.e., belittling and degrading). Scorner comes from the Hebrew word (*luwts*) and means carries the same idea as scoffer. A scoffer will have a haughty attitude and believe (often unjustifiably) that he or she is better than others, and will often not mix with those they consider their social inferiors. They are arrogant and exalt themselves above others and even God. They will treat people they look down upon and believe are inferior to them with disdain and at their worst with cruelty and destruction. They cause quarrels, strife, arguments, fights and even wars. The name of a scoffer (mockers) is encompassed in the words pride, arrogant and haughty

PROVERBS 22:11

- **Proverbs 22:11:** He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech is gracious, will have the king as his friend.

The word purity comes from the Hebrew word (*t^ehowr*) and literally means to be bright; pure, sound, clear and to be unadulterated and morally innocent and holy. It carries the idea of being free from anything that is harmful and free from sin. Those who at the deepest level of their heart love the absence of anything that is harmful and free from sin will be favoured by a leader, ruler or a king (Proverbs 22:11). The title king is often used throughout the book of Proverbs, it comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) which can refer to the following four things:

- 1 A royal king ascending to the throne of royalty and reigning from it.
- 2 A male sovereign (i.e., a man or boy who rules as a monarch over an independent state).
- 3 The chief, or the principal leader or ruler of a group (secular or religious).
- 4 A messenger or ambassador, especially of God, (i.e. an angel, a king, a prophet, a priest or a teacher).
- 5 The best, the strongest and the wisest of all.

King in this verse comes from the Hebrew word (*malak*) it means a king royal, to ascend to the throne of royalty and reign. It is interesting to notice that (Prov. 1:1) uses the same Hebrew words for king (*malak*) which (Gen. 16:7) uses for angel. This means when Solomon uses the title king, he has in mind a good and wise king that does good, unless the context implies otherwise. The first mention of angel in the Bible is (Gen. 16:7) and the first mention of king is (Prov. 1:1). Both The word angel and the word king come from the same Hebrew words (*malak*). The following verse is the first mention of angel in Genesis:

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- The angel (*mal'ak*) of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. (Gen. 16:7)

The following verse is the first mention of king in Proverbs:

- The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king (*mal'ak*) of Israel. (Prov. 1:1)

For further information concerning angels see the title:

- Angels (ON WEBSITE MENU).

PROVERBS 22:12

- **Proverbs 22:12:** The eyes of the LORD keep watch over knowledge, but he overthrows the words of the traitor.

The King James Bible says:

- **Proverbs 22:12:** The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge, and he overthroweth the words of the transgressor.

The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge: carries the idea that God by His Spirit will favour and preserve knowledge of Himself and His word and those that possess such knowledge it can be applied to the following:

- Those who love wisdom and knowledge that teaches what is good and right.
- Those who love knowledge that produces pureness of heart and gracious words.

- Those who have knowledge of God and His word in their hearts and do His will.
- Those who faithfully minister the knowledge of God's word and cause His truth to prevail.
- Those who have the knowledge of the bloodstained cross and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ dwelling in their hearts and minds.

The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge: carries the idea that God by His Spirit will favour and preserve knowledge of Himself and His word and those that possess such knowledge.

God overthrows the words of the transgressor: carries the idea that God by His Spirit will overthrow the counsels, hopes, enterprises and plans of the wicked and utterly destroy them it can be applied to the following:

- Those who speak false, deceptive and flattering words to gain the favour of others.
- Those who are opposed to speeches that teach what is good and right and the truth of God.
- Those who are full of pride, lies, deceit and act corruptly and violently against others.
- Those who falsely teach the word of God and twist and distort the Gospel for their own gain.
- Those who follow the great transgressor, the lawless and wicked one, the man of sin, the antichrist.

PROVERBS 22:13

- **Proverbs 22:13:** The sluggard (slothful in KJV) says, "There is a lion outside! I shall be killed in the streets!"

Sluggard comes from the Hebrew word (*`atsel*) and means indolent (i.e., lazy lethargic idle apathetic) it carries to idea of a person being slothful, idle and slack. The expression the lazy person says, "There is a lion outside! I shall be killed in the streets!" Does not mean there is an actually lion outside it is a poetic way of saying "A lazy person will always find an excuse or reason not to work." A slothfulness and lazy person has no interest in work because laziness makes a person lethargic, mentally dull, apathetic and tired. It robs those that are lazy of energy, of vitality, of self-motivation and of the desire to learn anything new and of any interest in doing something new. This is because if something looks as though it may involve effort and work a lazy person will do all they can to avoid it and by doing so will not only become more lethargic and apathetic, but also lazier. In the book of Proverbs, it is written, slothfulness casts into a deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger. (Proverbs 19:15).

The apostle Paul in his letter to the Thessalonians wrote, we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness (2 Thess. 3:6) for we give you this command: "If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat." (2 Thess. 3:10). These words of Paul clearly show that God does not expect brothers and sisters in Christ to burden their own families by giving financial aid or food to a brother who is lazy and for no good reason is unwilling to work. Upon saying that it should be mentioned that this command does not apply to a person who is out of work, but is willing to work, nor does this principal apply to a person who for whatever reason is going through a period of overwhelming sorrow, deep depression or some other crisis in their life and because of these does not want to work. Those in Christ suffering in any of these ways, is in desperate need of

encouragement, comfort and compassion. This is because laziness is about attitude and choosing not to work when one is fully able to work and not about being unable to work. Though it is true that those who help the poor are storing up treasure in heaven God does not expect anyone to help a person who is unwilling to help themselves for the following three reasons:

1. The monies most brothers and sisters can afford to give is very limited so it is better that their giving goes to those who desire to work, but for whatever reason cannot and are therefore poor and struggling through no fault of their own rather than to those who are choosing to be lazy and unwilling to work when they are fully able.
2. Those who are lazy and chose not to work for no-good reason will forever be a drain on the budget of others and the church.
3. When those who do desire to work, but for some reason are unable to work do overcome their troubles they in turn will work and give to others who lack.

In the book of Proverbs, it is written:

- Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. (Prov. 6:6).
- A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich. (Prov. 10:4).
- The desire of the sluggard kills him, for his hands refuse to labour.” (Prov. 21:25).

PROVERBS 22:14

- **Proverbs 22:14:** The mouth of forbidden women is a deep pit; he with whom the LORD is angry will fall into it.

The King James Bible says:

- **Proverbs 22:14:** The mouth of strange women is a deep pit: he that is abhorred of the LORD shall fall therein.

A forbidden woman or strange woman is a married woman who is an adulteress she is also called an evil woman, a whorish woman and a prostitute.

(Prov. 2:19-19) (Prov. 5:3-23) (Prov. 6:23-35) (Prov. 7:1-27)
(Prov. 23:27).

Fifty years ago, when I was a teenager the expression, “She is a forbidden woman,” meaning she was a married woman was a common expression to hear amongst secular single guys out on the hunt looking for female partners. They understood that married women were mothers who had children and a husband and to have an affair with such a woman was not only wrong, but would destroy an entire family, this is why the single men of years gone by referred to them as forbidden women.

NOTE: for those who have fallen into the destructive path of adultery there is forgiveness in Christ, everyone is a sinner before God. Even the woman at the well who had five husbands the Lord Jesus Christ forgave, because of her honesty toward him and no-doubt her broken spirit when she saw such a caring man without sin protecting her from her enemies and able to show her kind compassion and forgiveness (John 8:3-11).

PROVERBS 22:15

- **Proverbs 22:15:** Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.

Rod: comes from the Hebrew word (*shebet*) and can refer to any of the following a stick for punishing, writing, fighting, ruling or walking, etc. The reason Solomon says this so strongly is because he knows that a child without discipline will grow into a teenager that will fall into all sorts of trouble because they have not learned self-control, or to rule over their own emotions. The rod is not about cruelly beating a child, even God is against that. The rod carries the idea of making the child aware that what they are doing is wrong.

It only takes a gentle smack on the backside for a child to get the message and learn that whatever behaviour they were doing will bring them harm in the future. Obviously, a gentle smack is not the only form of discipline that is effective. Many people have great success with other types of discipline. It is the principal that is important, not the method or what is used to carry it out. To deny a child of some form of effective discipline is to ruin their lives, that is why Solomon says the parent who loves their child will discipline them. Love will always do what is best for another person, even if it is something, we may not find easy to do. For further information concerning discipline see the notes following verse six above.

PROVERBS 22:16

- **Proverbs 22:16:** Whoever oppresses the poor to increase his own wealth, or gives to the rich, will only come to poverty.

As one travels through the Bible it becomes very clear that oppressing the poor for one's own gain is one of the greatest abominations before God, which shines a brilliant spotlight upon the truth that the statement, "Whoever oppresses the poor to increase their own wealth," is a great condemnation against all who oppress others for their own gain. This principal is not limited to individuals, but applies to nations, governments, global companies and employers all who oppress the poor for gain is an offence and abomination to God.

A thought to ponder: our global financial system of capitalism is based upon suppressing employees' wages to maximising the profit of the company or business. Today global companies oppress children and the poor and helpless in third world countries by using them as cheap labour in dismal warehouses with terrible working conditions so they can make greater profits and live an indulgent lifestyle.

NOTE: this is not a condemnation of all global and successful companies worldwide, but only upon those who oppress the poor to gain greater profits, but even then, we all carry the guilt. This is because statistics show that eighty-percent of the world's consumers will always buy the cheapest product on the shelf, which means companies are forced to supply the cheapest product possible and because of this they are driven to go to where they can pay the lowest wages possible or their company will collapse and thousands in the West will lose their jobs.

In 2007 the CEO an American global company that employed people worldwide share on a Sixty-Minute TV program that they were moving their head company from America to Mexico. The interviewer asked, "Don't you feel terrible, especially since your staff have taken wage cuts over the last two years to support your company?" He replied, "Of course I do, do you think any of us want to uproot our families leave America and go to Mexico, no one does, but if we don't, we will not survive as a company and thousands worldwide will be out of work." None of us can point the finger since we are all part of the problem because we demand the cheapest price and our global financial system is not about pursuing what is best for all people, but about profit.

PROVERBS 22:17-21

- **Proverbs 22:17-21:** Incline your ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply your heart to my knowledge, ¹⁸for it will be pleasant if you keep them within you, if all of them are ready on your lips. ¹⁹That your trust may be in the LORD, I have made them known to you today, even to you. ²⁰Have I not written for you thirty sayings of counsel and knowledge, ²¹to make you know what is right and true, that you may give a true answer to those who sent you?

These verses carry the following three ideas:

1. Listen to the counsel and advice of those who are wise and have a proven track record of making sensible decisions and judgments.
2. Applying the heart to knowledge is not limited to listening to the counsel and advice of others or to meditating on the wise words of Proverbs and reading the Bible, but also embraces applying the wisdom we learn to our lives.
3. Though it is a good thing if one is able to cite wise sayings and quote Bible verses from memory this is not what Solomon has in mind when he encourages us all to learn knowledge and wisdom. The purpose of learning knowledge and wisdom is so that they will correctly influence our conscience, so it in turn it will rightly direct the decisions and choices we make and guide our behaviour and our lives on the right path.

Those who heed the advice contained in these three statements will not only be favoured by God and man, but also able to give good counsel to others.

PROVERBS 22:22-23

- **Proverbs 22:22-23:** Do not rob the poor, because he is poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate, ²³for the LORD will plead their cause and rob of life those who rob them.

The poor at the gate would obviously embrace those who were financially poor while the afflicted would refer to the lepers, the sick and the disabled, anyone who robs the poor the weak and the helpless will be judged and condemned to the lake of fire as symbol of eternal death (i.e., total destruction and utter extinction). For further information concerning the poor see the notes following verse sixteen above.

PROVERBS 22:24-25

- **Proverbs 22:24-25:** Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man, ²⁵lest you learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare.

Do not become friend of a person who cannot control their temper and certainly do not marry one. An angry person gets themselves into difficult, hurtful and dangerous situations because of their destructive actions and lack of self-control.

PROVERBS 22:26-27

- **Proverbs 22:26:** Be not one of those who give pledges, who put up security for debts. ²⁷If you have nothing with which to pay, why should your bed be taken from under you?

Do not put something up as security to borrow money you cannot pay back or the debt collectors will come and take even what you have now.

PROVERBS 22:28

- **Proverbs 22:28:** Do not move the ancient landmark that your fathers have set.

Don't encroach on another person's land or move the boundary pegs.

PROVERBS 22:29

- **Proverbs 22:29:** Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.

A person with a great skill or talent will be embraced by royalty and great leaders.

WISDOM EMBRACES THE FOLLOWING NINE ASPECTS

1. Having a clear thoughtful, rational, discerning, discriminating, sharp, and discreet mind.
2. Being cautious in character as opposed to being impulsive.
3. Being sensible and practical with the skills and talents that a person has.
4. Making choices that considers others and that will be fair and just.
5. Studying, reading and learning to acquire mental knowledge that helps in making right decisions for the present moment and for the future.
6. Being able to see the future danger of a decision, choice or action.
7. Having the ability to make good choices and decisions in the present moment that will end in the best result and a good outcome in the future.
8. Being able to perceive the end result or ramifications (good or bad) of the underlying message a speaker is teaching.
9. Wisdom will protect a person from making decisions and choices in the present moment that will lead to hurt or calamity in the future for themselves and for others.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
