

*H O U S E o f W I S D O M*  
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## Proverbs, Chapter 1 - Part I

### The Purpose of the Proverbs

Read Proverbs 1:1-6:

1. What are the reasons listed for the proverbs of Solomon? Verses 2-5 Below is an expansion on meanings of words used:

\*h2451: Wisdom - accumulated learning, knowledge, insight & judgment, how to apply what has been learned (39 of 149 times in the O.T.); the root is *khaw-kam* <sup>h2449</sup> = to be wise (exceedingly).

\*h4148: Instruction - chastening, correction (30/50 times in O.T.); root is h3256 = to chastise with blows, literally; or figuratively with words, to instruct.

\*h995: Perceive - to consider, to discern, to understand (35/170 times).

\*h998: Understanding - discernment (14/38 times); root is h995.

\*h7919: Wisdom - to wisely consider (with comprehension), to understand (13/63 times).

\*h4912: proverb/parable - usually a short maxim of a metaphorical nature (6/39 times)

\*h2420: dark saying, riddle, difficult question; defined in Ps 78:1-4 & 49:4 as a parable/proverb <sup>h4912</sup> (1/17).

Psalms 78:1-4, 6: *1 Give ear, O my people, to my law* <sup>h8451</sup> [*teaching, instruction*]; *bow down your ears to the words of my mouth. 2 I will open my mouth in a parable* <sup>h4912</sup>; *I will speak dark sayings* <sup>h2420</sup> *of old, 3 which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. 4 We will not hide them from their sons, showing to the generations to come the praises of Yahweh, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He has done... 6 so that the generation to come might know; sons shall be born, and they shall arise and tell their sons.* MKJV {Dark sayings, difficult questions are contained in parables.}

2. What does Psalms 78:1-4 reveal about the handling of parables in ancient times and future generations?

{Stories in concise metaphorical maxims were to be passed from generation to generation, until revealed at some future time. Stories that paint pictures are easily remembered. Jesus told his disciples that he had spoken to them in parables, but the time was coming when he would show them plainly about the Father, Jn 16:25. Paul indicated other hidden things that were revealed to him but not known in the past, Eph 3:1-6, 9; Rom 16:25; Col 1:26-27. Jesus' explanation of some of the parables are examples that we should seek to understand all parables, Mk 4:13; Lk 8:10.}

3. What is the purpose of the proverbs? Verse 5-6.

{It is the wise who will hear & increase in learning, contrary to those described in Mt 13:15. The Bible will decode the symbols contained in parables. Example: Lk 13:32, Fox = false prophet, Eze 13:3-4.}

4. Who would be the “wise” from whom we are to understand the “dark sayings” (parables)? 1Cor 1:24, 30  
{Inspired writers of the Bible and Jesus, all of whom issued many metaphorical words.}

Read Proverbs 1:7-9:

5. What is the beginning of knowledge? Verse 7

{Fear, Hebrew *yir-aw*<sup>h3374</sup>; root *yaw-ray*<sup>h3372</sup> = A.H.: to throw: *yir-aw* = *stand in awe or fear where one throws self to the feet of one in authority*. To be afraid - Dt 2:25; reverence - Pr 8:13; both - Ps 2:11; understanding - Job 28:28; A.H. = Ancient Hebrew: context determines the interpretation.}

6. What type person does is a fool<sup>h191</sup>? Ps 107:17: *Fools are afflicted because of their rebellion, and because of their iniquities*<sup>h5771</sup>. MKJV

{*aw-vone*<sup>h5771</sup> *perversity*; from *aw-vaw*<sup>h5753</sup> *to bend, twist, distort*: A fool has twisted, distorted thinking. Pr 10:14, 21 a fool lacks wisdom/despises, 1Cor 1:24; Pr 12:15; 14:3; 20:3; Judah in apostasy Jer 4:22. A person simple/silly<sup>h6612</sup> is a parallel description: *peth-ee*<sup>h6612</sup> = *easily deceived, seducible*, Ps 19:7.}

7. Who is your Father & Mother - spiritually? Negative: Gen 3:20; Positive: Gal 4:26; Rv 21:2

{From Adam & Eve we inherited the lack of trusting God. The divine nature we inherit, Gal 3:14, 18 is the Spirit of the Father through His only begotten Son - Jesus, pictured in Revelation 21:2 as the New Jerusalem.}

Read Proverbs 1:10-19:

8. With what do sinners entice the innocent that would cause them to lose their souls? Eze 18:20

{Iniquity is explained in question 6 as twisted, perverted thinking. Blood symbol for soul, Lv 17:11; a net is a mind-set or teaching that snares people - the gospel for good, false teaching for bad, Pr 29:5; Ps 9:15.}

8a. What does it mean to be swallowed by the grave, go down into a pit? Pr 23:27; Ps 30:3; figurative of corruption - Ps 16:10 [not “hell”, but the “grave.” cf Acts 2:27; 13:34-35

{A grave/pit is a hole in the earth; earth is self. To be in a grave or pit is to have an earthly understanding, & be spiritually dead.}