

November Teaching Theme: Wisdom

讲员 Speaker: William R. Horne

题目 Topic: A Biblical Theology of Wisdom: Proverbs

经文 Scripture: Proverbs

Monthly Theme: This month we will be looking at the idea of “Wisdom” through the lens of the three major wisdom literature books in the Bible: Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Job. These books are all seeking to address the same type of questions from a different vantage point. “What kind of world are we living in and what does it mean to live life well in this world?” For us to understand the full picture of Biblical Wisdom we have to examine all three books side by side. This week we are taking a look at the larger message of the book of Proverbs.

Resources:

[Bible Project: Proverbs](#) (English - 5:30)

[Bible Project: Proverbs](#) (Chinese - 4:37)

[Sermon Manuscript](#)

[Sermon Video](#)

[Sermon PPT](#)

Discussion Questions:

- (1) Read Proverbs 1:1-7 together. What observations do you make and what stands out to you? What does this introduction tell us about “wisdom”?
- (2) One of the keys to interpreting a Proverb well is understanding the right time and the right context to apply them. This is how the genre works, so all Proverbs (biblical and not) work this way. Can you think of a Proverb either (biblical or not) and how that Proverb could be misapplied and how it is properly applied?
 - (a) Example:
 - (i) Biblical Proverb: **“Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.”** - Proverbs 10:4
 - (ii) English Proverb: “Better Late than Never”
- (3) In the book of Proverbs, we learn that Wisdom is available to all who seek it. This might mean that someone who isn’t a Christian could be making “wise” decisions, even if they haven’t discovered ultimate wisdom in “The Fear of the Lord.” How should this inform how we interact with those outside the Church?
- (4) We also see in the Proverbs that “Wisdom” is just as much emotional intelligence as intellectual intelligence. Emotional intelligence includes the ability to understand yours and other people’s emotions in order to respond correctly. To grow in Emotional Intelligence first takes honesty and self-reflection. Discuss together some ways we can grow in our Emotional Intelligence together as a community.
- (5) The book of Proverbs has always taught us that “wisdom” entails ethical and just action. Bruce Waltke wrote, **“The righteous are willing to disadvantage themselves to advantage the community. The wicked are willing to disadvantage the community”**

to advantage themselves.” What are somethings we can begin doing to be this type of person?

(6) As always please spend time praying together over these things.

Important Notes (Pastor Will):

Examples of Emotional Intelligence questions to ask yourself:

- How would I (or you) describe my communication style? Am I direct? Brash? Clear? Ambiguous? Subtle? Tactful? How would others describe my communication style?
- What effect does my communication have on others?
- How would I (or you) describe the way I make decisions? Do I tend to make decisions slowly or quickly? What factors influence me?
- How does my current mood affect my thoughts and decision-making?
- How would I (or you) rate my self-esteem and self-confidence? How do these qualities affect the decisions I make?
- What are my emotional strengths?
- What are my emotional weaknesses?
- In what situations do I find that emotions work against me, or cause me to do or say something I later regret?
- Am I open to other perspectives?
- Am I too easily swayed by the opinions of others?
- Should I be more or less skeptical? Why?
- Do I tend to focus on the positive or negative traits of others? Why?
- What traits in others bother me? Why?
- Do I generally give others the benefit of the doubt? Why or why not?
- Do I find it difficult to admit when I'm wrong? Why or why not?

(Questions are written by Justin Bariso)

Sermon Summary (Elder Yin):

圣经中的智慧

Pastor Will 11-1-20

“以色列王大卫儿子所罗门的箴言：要使人晓得智慧和训诲，分辨通达的言语，使人处事领受智慧、仁义、公平、正直的训诲，使愚人灵明，使少年人有知识和谋略，使智慧人听见，增长学问，使聪明人得着智谋，使人明白箴言和譬喻，懂得智慧人的言词和谜语。敬畏耶和华是知识的开端；愚妄人藐视智慧和训诲。”

箴言 1:1-7

什么是好的生活？三本书一起，箴言，传道书，约伯书，看到不同人有不同的反应，有年青的老师，有中年得志的人，有聪明的老年人。从不同的角度来看，让我们经历神赐丰富的人生：需要智慧，今天重点在箴言。

要好生活就要行在智慧的道路

什么是智慧，从那来？

箴言26：7和9

一，什么是箴言？10章到31章，这几章所说智慧的言语是较广义的，不只是针对这本书，而是对任何文化的人们都适应。对事情的观察提出有益的建议。不是绝对的真理，但在特定情况下是对的。

譬如：

箴言10:4 “手懒的，要受贫穷；手勤的，却要富足。”

和

箴言23:4-5, “不要劳碌求富，休仗自己的聪明。你岂要定睛在虚无的钱财上吗？因钱财必长翅膀，如鹰向天飞去。”

箴言 23:4-5

似乎相反的意思。所以用圣经原则，在不同的情况不同的使用。不是绝对的真理，而是具体情况下具体应用。有智慧的人才能掌握平衡，如何应用。象箴言15章所说：

“口善应对，自觉喜乐；话合其时，何等美好。”

箴言 15:23

“瘸子的脚空存无用；箴言在愚昧人的口中也是如此。

箴言在愚昧人的口中，好像荆棘刺入醉汉的手。”

箴言 26:7, 9

从上所知智慧的话语只有智慧者才能应用。如何能得到这等智慧呢？

二，智慧是什么？箴言1-9章

A, 智慧从神而来，也为寻求智慧的人预备。箴言1:32-33 “愚昧人背道，必杀己身；愚顽人安逸，必害己命。惟有听从我的，必安然居住，得享安静，不怕灾祸。”

箴言 1:32-33

智慧象风，虽见不到但能感觉到。智慧的人有智慧的行为。智慧是与神的创造不能分开，认识和顺服神是智慧的中心。智慧的妇人在箴言中到处与人告之神的智慧是给予所有的人。

B, 智慧是美好生活的技巧。

生活需要一定的方式方法，实用的技巧，不只是知识或者EQ和IQ。人生叉路口很多，需选择，一条路是进入死亡，一条永生

箴言1-9，一位是智慧的妇人一位妄妇，在这交叉路口，你要跟那一位。和智慧的妇人坐席还是和愚妄的妇人坐席？坐席意指和他或她建立亲密的关系。两个妇人都想要得到你的注意。智慧的妇女让你离开不道德，让你得忍耐的心，最终让你得生命。智慧最终是带领我们见神。愚妄的妇女，和她一起坐席虽短暂的快乐但最终是死亡。

C, 智慧开始在于敬畏耶和华

箴言1:7 “敬畏耶和华是知识的开端；愚妄人藐视智慧和训诲。”

智慧是神的第一特征

智慧是尊重上帝定的善与恶。好生活是生活在上帝定的善与恶。好人是为义和为穷苦人利益为重。恶人是自己得益，社会受损。好人有天国的道德观，

箴言29:7。“义人知道查明穷人的案；恶人没有聪明，就不得而知。”

箴言11:1 “诡诈的天平为耶和华所憎恶；公平的法码为它所喜悦。”

22:11 “喜爱清心的人因他嘴上的恩言，王必与他为友。”

箴言11:12“藐视邻舍的，毫无智慧；明哲人却静默不言。”

箴言11:6:“正直人的义必拯救自己；奸诈人必陷在自己的罪孽中。”

箴言25:16: “你得了蜜吗？只可吃够而已，恐怕你过饱就呕吐出来。”

如何使我们的生活能让人看到天堂的生活的宿影。

三，结语

箴言1-9章讲述神的创造和神的智慧。箴言10到31章讲如何来应用这智慧。不是简单的IQ或者EQ，真智慧从敬畏神而来，遵守祂的指导。如下面这经句作为结束语。

“你要专心仰赖耶和华，不可倚靠自己的聪明，在你一切所行的事上都要认定他，他必指引你的路。”箴言 3:5-6

English version:

A biblical theology of wisdom: Wisdom according to proverbs

Pastor Will

Proverbs 1:1-7

This month is wisdom month, study 3 books: Proverbs Ecclesiastics Jobs

To answer similar questions from different angles, how to live well in this world?

What is a good life?

We'll exam the three books side by side, different persons response to the same question

A Young teacher

A sharp middle-aged

Old wise man

Experience the full dimensions

We'll study Proverbs for this week

Primary claims: to live a good life, we must choose the path of wisdom

Road map:

1. What is a proverb? C10-31

2. What is wisdom? C1-9 according to the book of proverbs

Proverbs C10-31 truth is general, not unique to this book, similar truth exists in different culture.

They are true if apply at the right time, at right situation

For example:

10:4 lazy hands make for poverty, diligent hands bring wealth.

True? We see many opposite examples in our life

So it is a general truth, need to be applied in right time and right situation.

If we think the statement is always true, we may make serious mistake—like some consider the rich blessed, the poor cursed

We may find proverbs contradicting, such as 23:4-5 “don't wear yourself out to get rich.... —it's foolish to work hard to get rich.

Therefore proverbs are not universally valid, need to be applied in certain situation

Only the wise person knows how to apply it at the right time, to the right application

15:23 ... a fitting reply, to say the right thing at the right time

26:7, 9 “a proverb in the mouth of a fool is useless...

Therefore, it takes a wise person to activate the application of proverb

So what is wisdom?

Proverbs 1-9

The insight of being wise

1. Wisdom from God, available to all who seeks Him.

1:32-33 whoever listens to wisdom will live in safety, at ease, w/o fear of harm

We can't see the wind, but we can feel it, same with wisdom, we can see the effort of it.

Wisdom is woven in God's Creation

the center of wisdom is to submit to the lord

Lady Wisdom walking around telling people God's wisdom, available to all

2. Wisdom is the skill of living well

Not just intellectual knowledge, not just IQ, that simple.

Like the skilled craftsman

You put wisdom into act to living well

Practical

Know how to avoid certain problems, how to solve and face them
How to proper responses

EQ

C1-9 Centered around Path or Way,

In our life, at the crossroads, right path leading to life, wrong to death

And how to react to people along the way

C1-9 contrast b/w lady wisdom and lady folly, who do you dine with?

To eat w/ someone in this cultural

setting is to form intimate relationship with, it's a metaphor

Both sides try to get your attention:

Lay wisdom teaches to be away with the unethical, to be patient, but ultimately leads to life

Lady Folly, ignorant with ignorance

Instant gratification but ultimately death

3. Fear of the lord is the beginning of wisdom

Wisdom is the first attribute of God

1:7 the fear of the Lord, beginning of knowledge, fool despise wisdom and instruction

Respect god's definition—all the way to Genesis, the first couple didn't, they made own choice of good and evil

Righteous is those willing to discipline themselves

Proper actions in the upside down Kingdom

29:7 the righteous care about the justice for the poor

11:1 to detest dishonest scales

22:11 to love the pure heart, to speak w/ grace

11:12 to hold their tongue

11:6 self control

25:16 if you find honey, eat just enough 🍯

How do we live, can give people around us a glimpse of heavenly kingdom

1-9 The world is God's creation, wisdom of God

10-31 wise to know how to apply these wisdom

Not simple intelligence, IQ but also EQ, cultural application

True wisdom begins w fear of god, abide to His guidance

3:5-6 trust in the lord w all your heart, not lean on your own understanding