

INTRODUCTION

- * Google Self-Help Books ... 5.1 Billion results!!!!
- * Self-Improvement Industry was worth \$11.6 Billion in 2019, and is estimated to grow to \$13.2 Billion per year by 2022!
- * Where are people turning to find wisdom, knowledge, instruction, understanding, discernment and discretion? The world and relative truth!
- * The Wisdom recorded in the book of Proverbs has stood the test of time. It was "written" by a small group of individuals 2500-2800 years ago!
Ultimately, we understand that these authors were moved by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:20-21), such that every word is "God-breathed" in order to fully equip the man of God to all good works (2 Tim 3:16-17).
- * Sadly, those who are called by God's name turn to the world for wisdom rather than to He who is the source of all true Wisdom!
- * Lord willing, we will spend at least 12 weeks considering the wisdom recorded in this book. We will not be able to consider it verse-by-verse but rather thematically - considering a group of like passages. However, we will still consider those passages expositively and exegetically - seeking to glean the wisdom, knowledge, instruction, understanding, discernment and discretion that is being communicated to the "man of God" in order that we might be equipped!

INSTRUCTION

I. THE PURPOSE (v. 2-6)

A. To K _____

1. W _____
2. D _____

B. To U _____

C. To R _____

1. DISCIPLINE OF U _____ (cf. Jeremiah 9:23-24)
2. DISCIPLINE OF R _____
3. DISCIPLINE OF J _____
4. DISCIPLINE OF U _____

D. To G _____

1. TO THE SIMPLE: Prudence
* cf. Proverbs 14:15,18; 22:3; 27:12; Exodus 21:14; Joshua 9:4; Proverbs 8:5, 12; Matthew 10:16
2. TO THE YOUNG MAN:
* Knowledge
* Discretion (cf. Psalm 21:11; Proverbs 8:12; 12:2; 14:17; 24:8; Jeremiah 30:24)

II. THE PRINCIPLE (v. 5-7)

A. The Wise _____ (v. 5-6)

B. The Fool _____ (v. 7b)

III. THE PRECEPT (v.7a) ... *Lord willing, next week*

INTROSPECTION

- * How much time do you spend reading God's Word as opposed to reading the "self-help" information of man?
- * If you haven't already, are you willing to commit yourself to reading a chapter of Proverbs every day?
- * The wise will seek wisdom - The fool will despise wisdom. Which are you?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think ... and therefore act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

It may be helpful to re-read the passage before the discussion.

- * Read Deuteronomy 4:1-10. Consider the challenge to Israel. How does it apply to our discussion today and to the church?