

# Solomon's Wisdom

## Explaining the God Ordained System of Just Weights and Measures from the book of Proverbs

\*It may help your understanding to read some of these passages in a different translation (here's a link to compare: <http://www.biblegateway.com/>). I have chosen to use the American Standard Version unless noted otherwise.

\*This study will follow a chronological path through the book of Proverbs with some added commentary.

This has been done for two reasons:

1. I believe the book provides an excellent outline for discussion as it is already laid out in the Bible.
2. I do not want people to make the excuse that these sayings do not apply because they are somehow taken out of context. Everything is built on everything else. This is meant to act as a condensed form of Proverbs, focusing on the topics of money, stewardship, and the system of just weights and measures established by God for his children to follow.

### A Starting Point

*The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of knowledge; But the foolish despise wisdom and instruction. (Pro 1:7)*

---We must continually meditate upon this verse, striving to decide what is true is based upon God's word rather than man's. My words are not inspired, but God's are. I am here only to reveal, not to add or subtract. The fear of the Lord is not a fear of his wrath, so much as it is a fear that he will leave us. And if we are not careful to live our lives according to the principles laid down for us in his word, the Bible, then he surely will leave us to our own folly until we repent and turn back to him.

### Concerning Greed

*So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; It taketh away the life of the owners thereof. (Pro 1:19)*

---Before pursuing the subject of money, it is necessary to recognize its overwhelming tendency to corrupt us unless we treat our wealth as if it were the wealth of God. This is, after all, what it means to be a steward. We are entrusted with what God has given us, and if we continue to live with this perspective, money will never become a god to us. Rather, money will become the instrument by which we carry out God's will.

## Warnings

*Then will they call upon me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they shall not find me: For they hated knowledge, And did not choose the fear of Jehovah: They would none of my counsel; They despised all my reproof. Therefore they shall eat of the fruit of their own way, And be filled with their own devices. For the backsliding of the simple shall slay them, And the careless ease of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell securely, And shall be quiet without fear of evil. (Pro 1:28-33)*

## Concerning Wisdom

*If thou seek her as silver, And search for her as for hid treasures: Then shalt thou understand the fear of Jehovah, And find the knowledge of God.*

*For Jehovah giveth wisdom; Out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding: He layeth up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to them that walk in integrity; That he may guard the paths of justice, And preserve the way of his saints. Then shalt thou understand righteousness and justice, And equity, yea, every good path. (Pro 2:4-9)*

---Should it not by now be overwhelmingly clear to us that knowledge and wisdom concerning every matter of life originate with God, and that in order to 'tap into' this knowledge we must fear the Lord our God and walk in his ways.

## Why Acquire Wisdom?

*For the gaining of it is better than the gaining of silver, And the profit thereof than fine gold. (Pro 3:14)*

## Concerning Loans

*My son, don't put up money for what your neighbor owes. Don't agree to pay up for someone else. Don't be trapped by what you have said. Don't be caught by the words of your mouth. Instead, my son, do something to free yourself. Don't fall into your neighbor's hands. Don't be proud. Hurry and make your appeal to your neighbor. Don't let your eyes go to sleep. Don't let your eyelids close. As a deer frees itself from a hunter, free yourself. As a bird frees itself from a trapper, free yourself. (Pro 6:1-5 NIRV)*

--In other words, loans are dangerous, whether you are the lender or the borrower. We are to avoid them if it be possible, because when we enter into such an agreement we are no longer free. We have either become the servants of the lender or have made a slave out of our fellow man if we begin to charge him unjust interest. Here lies the problem, who decides what is just? Certainly this will lead to all sorts of problems within society, and it is not hard to see its effects in the modern-day world, where it has become almost status-quo to be indebted for life. This does not even take into effect the fact that the majority of the third world remains as such because they are unable to escape their debt obligations. This will be discussed in much greater depth in future articles, but if you are interested, begin to consider the wisdom behind the God ordained practice of canceling all debts every 7 years in the year of Jubilee. It worked to free men from greed through usury on the one hand, and from the chains of debt on the other.

## Concerning Work Ethic

*Go to the ant, thou sluggard; Consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no chief, Overseer, or ruler, Provideth her bread in the summer, And gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as a robber, And thy want as an armed man. (Pro 6:6-11)*

--As God's people we are commanded not to be lazy. God not only admires, but he expects hard workers. God will never entrust his kingdom work to lazy men or women.

## Do you Hate Evil?

*The fear of Jehovah is to hate evil: Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, And the perverse mouth, do I hate. (Pro 8:13)*

--The most productive form of hate is not insult but action. We must work against the various systems of evil in the world, by living righteously ourselves. In doing this, we will be the light of the world. In order to be light and salt, we must first be able to distinguish between good and evil. When it comes to money, most Christians don't have a very thorough understanding of God's standards, and have instead bought into the current system of unjust weights and measures which he abhors, as we will see.

## Durable Wealth

*Counsel is mine, and sound knowledge: I am understanding; I have might. By me kings reign, And princes decree justice. By me princes rule, And nobles, even all the judges of the earth. I love them that love me; And those that seek me diligently shall find me. Riches and honor are with me; Yea, durable wealth and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; And my revenue than choice silver. I walk in the way of righteousness, In the midst of the paths of justice; That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance, And that I may fill their treasuries. (Pro 8:14-21)*

--The durable wealth that God refers to throughout the entire Bible is not paper, it is, of course, Gold and Silver. Paper is not “substance”, paper is not “durable”. Paper is a promise that is broken more and more every day as it inflates. There is nothing behind it, only faith in an ungodly system promulgated by men who have no understanding of God. Our God is a God of righteousness and justice, and that is why he made the Gold and Silver to be used as money in the first place. Because a system based upon gold and silver cannot be inflated, it keeps men—especially politicians and rulers—honest. It also gives people the veto power necessary to call the government's bluff if they think that their money is being manipulated/inflated, since they can simply redeem their money, in effect revealing whether or not the government has been lying.

## Will you except God's instruction?

*Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: Teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. (Pro 9:9)*

-----In case we have already forgotten where the source of wisdom and knowledge springs forth from:

*The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom; And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Pro 9:10)*

-----Judge whether or not my words are silver:

*The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver: The heart of the wicked is of little worth. (Pro 10:20)*

### **The first of several direct denunciations of unjust weights**

*A false balance is an abomination to Jehovah; But a just weight is his delight. When pride cometh, then cometh shame; But with the lowly is wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them; But the perverseness of the treacherous shall destroy them. (Pro 11:1-3)*

---Notice the progression. Unjust weights promote the growth of pride. Would you not agree that the USA is prideful of its dollar, despite it being a broken promise, unredeemable in anything tangible if it weren't for the good faith of others that propped up its value. We should fear the Lord, and take his word seriously. It talks about pride coming before a fall. If you have integrity, and if you seek God and his wisdom, then you will not fall. Become lowly in wisdom as God desires.

### **We do not trust in riches, We trust in the Lord**

*He that trusteth in his riches shall fall; But the righteous shall flourish as the green leaf. (Pro 11:28)*

### **Seek Counsel!**

*The way of a fool is right in his own eyes; But he that is wise hearkeneth unto counsel. (Pro 12:15)*

### **If God's Words are true, judge mine by them**

*The lip of truth shall be established for ever; But a lying tongue is but for a moment. (Pro 12:19)*

### **Labor hard and you will be rewarded**

*Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished; But he that gathereth by labor shall have increase. (Pro 13:11)*

### **Do not despise the words of God, rather fear his commands**

*Whoso despiseth the word bringeth destruction on himself; But he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded. (Pro 13:13)*

### **Wisdom saves one from death**

*The law of the wise is a fountain of life, That one may depart from the snares of death. (Pro 13:14)*

## **Poverty is the result of a hard and stubborn heart**

*Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth correction; But he that regardeth reproof shall be honored. (Pro 13:18)*

*The crown of the wise is their riches; But the folly of fools is only folly. (Pro 14:24)*

## **The Second Affirmation of the 'doctrine' of Just Weights and Measures**

*A just balance and scales are Jehovah's; All the weights of the bag are his work. (Pro 16:11)*

---Notice that Paper weighs almost nothing, this should serve to highlight it's falsity. If our dollar bills were redeemable in physical gold and silver, as is decreed by our constitution and blatantly ignored by our congressmen (most, not all), then this would be different. But as it now stands, the paper is a filthy rag, a false weight—fiat, and a fraud. It is a broken promise, and it is about time that Christians recognized this and fought for the reinstatement of Sound Money. Indeed, the battle is already beginning.

*How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! Yea, to get understanding is rather to be chosen than silver. (Pro 16:16)*

---Notice here the irony that by following the principle of this verse, one will eventually end up realizing that dollars are intrinsically worthless (after acquiring wisdom and understanding), and will consequently choose to convert a portion of their savings into either gold or silver.

## **Take the righteous road and be happy together with your God**

*The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: He that keepeth his way preserveth his soul. He that giveth heed unto the word shall find good; And whoso trusteth in Jehovah, happy is he. (Pro 16:17,20)*

## **The giving of gifts**

*A man's gift maketh room for him, And bringeth him before great men. (Pro 18:16)*

--How can one give gifts without first acquiring wealth. This is not to say that all Christians ought to be wealthy, far from it. But what the verse says is that this is one way in which we can serve God with our wealth. Today, the men in power are severely lacking in wisdom. Therefore, God-fearing men should approach them and instruct them. The easiest way to do this is through gift giving and favors. Wealth is a wonderful privilege, it is easily applied leverage, and because of this it must be used to its utmost effect.

## **Regarding Charity**

*He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto Jehovah, And his good deed will he pay him again. (Pro 19:17)*

--It is interesting to think of our giving unto the poor as lending unto God. Apparently God is the ultimate entrepreneur, who knows how to multiply our wealth, however insignificant it may seem.

Again, how could such gifts be given unto the poor without some having acquired wealth already. Money is good when it does not usurp the place of God and is used instead to further his kingdom. It is a shelter for the poor and needy who are weary and in need of rest, it is a cloak to keep them warm and the food to keep them well fed. "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress... (James 1:27a)

### **Sluggards are Not Givers, nor do They Have the Option**

*The desire of the sluggard killeth him; For his hands refuse to labor. There is that coveteth greedily all the day long; But the righteous giveth and withholdeth not. (Pro 21:25-26)*

### **THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

*There are many devices in a man's heart; But the counsel of Jehovah, that shall stand. (Pro 19:21)*

*A righteous man that walketh in his integrity, Blessed are his children after him. (Pro 20:7)*

----One simply cannot follow the counsel of Jehovah and walk in his integrity while simultaneously denying this principle (below), repeated now for the third time in proverbs alone:

*Diverse weights, and diverse measures, Both of them alike are an abomination to Jehovah. (Pro 20:10)*

### **Again**

*There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against Jehovah. (Pro 21:30)*

----Then it is ought to be quite clear, we cannot ignore the issue of unjust weights and measures.

### **Be Prudent**

*A prudent man seeth the evil, and hideth himself; But the simple pass on, and suffer for it. (Pro 22:3)*

### **Choose Humility and the fear of the Lord**

*The reward of humility and the fear of Jehovah Is riches, and honor, and life. (Pro 22:4)*

### **Give generously to the poor**

*He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; For he giveth of his bread to the poor. (Pro 22:9)*

### **Purchase truth!**

*Buy the truth, and sell it not; Yea, wisdom, and instruction, and understanding. (Pro 23:23)*

### **Do this, and your family will be blessed**

*Through wisdom is a house built; And by understanding it is established; And by knowledge are the chambers filled With all precious and pleasant riches. (Pro 24:3-4)*

## **If God has Concealed this Truth to you Until Now, Give him the Glory He Deserves**

*It is the glory of God to conceal a thing... (Pro 25:2)*

## **Again, I challenge everyone to test my words**

*A word fitly spoken Is like apples of gold in network of silver. As an ear-ring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, So is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear. (Pro 25:11-12)*

## **Do not give into the wicked one!**

*As a troubled fountain, and a corrupted spring, So is a righteous man that giveth way before the wicked. (Pro 25:26)*

## **We must Sharpen one Another with the Word of God**

*As Iron sharpeneth iron; So a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend. (Pro 27:17)*

## **Become an Abomination to the Wicked**

*An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous; And he that is upright in the way is an abomination to the wicked. (Pro 29:27)*

*They that forsake the law praise the wicked; But such as keep the law contend with them. (Pro 28:4)*

## **You can Understand True Justice**

*Evil men understand not justice; But they that seek Jehovah understand all things. (Pro 28:5)*

## **STRONG Warning against the practice of usury (interest)**

*He that augmenteth his substance by interest and increase, Gathereth it for him that hath pity on the poor. (Pro 28:8)*

## **Does God Hear Your Prayers?**

*He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, Even his prayer is an abomination. (Pro 28:9)*

## **Continue to remember the poor**

*He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack; But he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse. (Pro 28:27)*

## **Destruction will Come Suddenly for the Disobedient**

*A man who remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed--without remedy. (Pro 29:1 NIV)*

*Many seek the ruler's favor; But a man's judgment cometh from Jehovah. (Pro 29:26)*

## **Conclusion**

The Characteristics of the 4 Wise Creatures (Pro 30:24-28 NIV)

*Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer;*

### **Industry**

*coney (rock badger) are creatures of little power, yet they make their home in the crags;*

### **Provision**

*locusts have no king, yet they advance together in ranks;*

### **Organization**

*a lizard can be caught with the hand, yet it is found in kings' palaces.*

### **Diligence**

----This passage shows us that we are to make use of ourselves (industry), working hard to provide for both ourselves and our family. Secondly, it shows that we should begin saving (provision) some of our wealth in the 'fat years' because of the 'lean years' that will inevitably come. Thirdly, it shows that we should keep watch over our earnings and invest them in ways that line up with God's law in order to make an impact (organization). Finally, it shows that we should faithfully give a portion of our wealth for kingdom purposes in order to please our heavenly king as well as find favor with the kings of earth (diligence). This includes providing for the poor, the orphans and widows, the teachers and other charitable causes.

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