

PROVERBS: LESSON 2

(Jerry Fite)

INTRODUCTION:

In this lesson, we examine three more of the fifteen lessons on wisdom given by a wise father to his sons.

I. REQUIREMENTS AND REWARDS OF OBTAINING TRUE WISDOM (3:1-18)

- A. Obedience leads to length of days (v.1-2).
- B. Keeping kindness and truth will bring favor before God and man (v.3-4).
- C. Rely on God, not self; He will guide you (v.5-6).
- D. Fear Jehovah and depart from evil, it will be healthy for you (v.7-8).
- E. Be generous to God with your substance, you will have plenty (v.9-10).
- F. Don't fail under God's chastisements; it is a manifestation of God's love (v.11-12).
- G. Obtaining wisdom is more valuable than gold (v.13-15).
- H. Wisdom's reward: "life" (v.13-15).

II. WISDOM'S CREATIVE POWER (3:19-26)

- A. Jehovah's wisdom can be trusted of by it He created the earth with its laws (v.19-22).
- B. Trusting in God's wisdom will make you secure in all circumstances (v.23-26).

III. WISDOM'S DEMANDS CONCERNING US AND OUR FELLOW MAN, INCLUDING THE UNGODLY (3:27-35)

- A. Do good to your neighbor in need (v.27-28).
- B. Do not devise evil against those who are trusting you (v.29-30).
- C. Do not harm those who have not harmed you (v.30).
- D. Choosing the ways of the perverse and wicked separates us from the friendship and blessings of God (v.31-35).

QUESTIONS:

1. Why is it smart to lean on God's understanding and not our own?
2. What two things must we never allow to get away from us? Why?
3. In 3:7, what two things must occur before one is truly wise?
4. Do we really lose our substance when we give generously unto God?
5. How does one keep from despising chastening?
6. What does God's wisdom offer that money cannot buy?
7. What does creation say to you that the Bible does not have to?
8. Describe the security that God's wisdom offer?
9. Are there conditions involved in our benevolence towards our neighbor?
Explain your answer.
10. What is it about the man of violence that one would envy?
11. Who today do you think has the greater influence on our youth: (1) the man of violence . (2) the scoffer. Explain.
12. In the end, what is the wicked's reward?
13. From chapters 1-3, give one example of the following structures of proverbs:
 - a. Antithetical:
 - b. Synonymous:

c. **Completive**