

BOOK OF 1 KINGS
WISDOM FROM CREATION
1 KINGS 4:32-34

Introduction

Solomon's kingdom was an awesome kingdom. The children of Israel prospered and there was peace and joy in the land. Solomon was wiser than any other man in the world. God gave him great understanding, insight, and discernment. His fame was so renowned among the nations that foreigners came to hear his wisdom (10:1-7, 24).

People came to hear his proverbs and songs. Verse 32 says he wrote 3000 proverbs and 1005 songs. The book of Proverbs records 915 proverbs which deal with common issues of life that we all face.

Concerning ANGER Solomon says:

Proverbs 14:17a—He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly:

Proverbs 15:18—A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife.

Proverbs 16:32—He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Proverbs 19:11,19—The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression. A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment: for if thou deliver him, yet thou must do it again.

Proverbs 15:1—A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

Proverbs 22:24-25—Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

Concerning CHILD TRAINING Solomon says:

Proverbs 13:24—He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

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Proverbs 19:18—Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

Proverbs 23:13-14—Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.

Proverbs 29:15,17—The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.

Concerning FRIENDSHIP Solomon says:

Proverbs 17:17—A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 18:24—A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Proverbs 27:10—Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbor that is near than a brother far off.

Proverbs 16:28—A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.

Concerning the TONGUE Solomon says:

Proverbs 25:11—A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Proverbs 21:23—Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.

Proverbs 18:13—He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.

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Proverbs 29:20—Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.

Proverbs 17:27—He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

Proverbs 27:1—Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

Concerning WEALTH Solomon says:

Proverbs 10:22—The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

Proverbs 15:6—In the house of the righteous is much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.

Proverbs 22:4—By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honor, and life.

Proverbs 3:9-10—Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Proverbs 11:28—He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

Proverbs 15:16—Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith.

Proverbs 22:1—A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold.

We know that Solomon was a man of great wisdom and knowledge. We know that he had knowledge of **botany** (he spoke of trees and plants)! It mentions here also that he had knowledge of **zoology** (he spoke of beasts)! It mentions his wisdom in the area of **ornithology** (he spoke of fowl)!

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It mentions his knowledge of insects (*creeping things*) and his knowledge of fish! He was well versed in all these areas and more!

Many of his proverbs use object lessons from nature in expounding the wisdom that God gave him! No doubt he used God's creation to teach wisdom and insights to those who came to him for wisdom!

Jesus also used creation to speak to us about things! Of course Solomon was wise, but Jesus is God—He is omniscient and His wisdom far exceeded that of Solomon!

Jesus used His Creation to speak to us about God's care!
(Matthew 6:25-34)

Whether we are rich or poor, **our attitude toward material possessions is one of the most reliable thermometers of our spiritual condition!** We are either spending our time laying up treasures in this world or in Heaven.

Keeping money and things in proper perspective is one of the keys to maturing spiritually in Christ! Jesus wanted us to have our priorities right when it came to financial matters. Consider some things we find in Scripture:

Of the 38 parables, 16 deal with money.

One out of ten verses in the New Testament deal with money.

The Bible contains 500 verses on prayer; fewer than 500 on faith, and 2000 verses on money.

Money is a tool to be used to care for our needs, help others, and get the Gospel to the lost. There is nothing wrong with having wealth and things, the problems come when our wealth and things controls us.

The heart of **Matthew 6:25-34** is don't worry. Don't worry about money, things, food, clothing, etc. The phrase **"take no thought"** is a command that appears three times (**vs. 25,31,34**).

This phrase means **"to be drawn in a different direction or to be torn apart."**

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Worry pulls a person apart because the person is trying to live a life without a dependence and trust in God.

Two areas that get us the most are 1) the regrets of yesterday, 2) the worries of tomorrow.

Dr. Charles Mayo once said that worry affects the circulation, heart, glands, and entire nervous system. Studies have found that the most dangerous day for heart attacks is Monday. Monday seems to be the most stressful day of the week for most people studied.

We are not to worry because of the Master we have as Believers!
Matthew 6:25—Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

The word "*therefore*" refers back to *verse 24*. God is to be our Master. When He is our Master, there is no need for worry. We are to "*take no thought*" which means "*to stop it and never start again.*"

Worry is wrong because it demonstrates a lack of trust in God's promises and providence. Worry is the interest we pay on tomorrow's troubles. If we worry, we can't trust; if we trust, we can't worry. Worry is opposite of contentment, which is the attitude we are to have in our life.

Philippians 4:11—Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

True contentment is found in the Lord.

We are not to worry because of the Father we have as Believers!
(Matthew 6:26-30)

He cares for the birds and flowers and can take care of us too!

We are not to worry because we are to have faith in God!
(Matthew 6:31-33)

Worry is inconsistent with faith. Worry is a characteristic of unbelief. We are to seek the LORD's will and righteousness!

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2 Peter 3:11—Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

We are not to worry about our future! (Matthew 6:34)

We are to be concerned about today and what God wants us to do today. He will give us peace in our problems.

Isaiah 26:3—Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

The Hebrew reads "*peace, peace.*" God has double peace for our problems!

Three key words are connected to victory over worry:

- 1) *Faith – Be a person of faith in God, not fear of the unknown!*
- 2) *Father – Be focused on the Heavenly Father, not anything else!*
- 3) *First – Seek God's kingdom first, not last!*