"Wisdom"

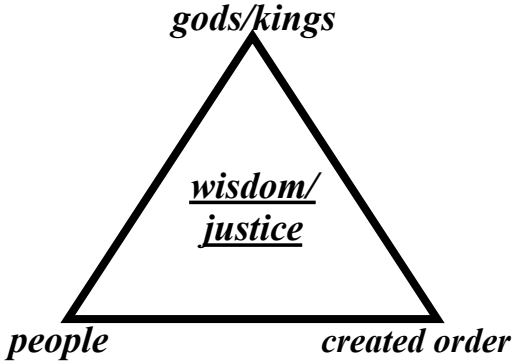
Do We Need It?

Proverbs 9

The Hebrews Old Testament contained the:

1. ***The Law*** - *(Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)*
2. ***The Prophets*** - *(Joshua, Judges, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, 12 Minor Prophets)*
3. ***The Writings*** - *(Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, 1&2 Chronicles)*

Proverbs *are guidelines not fixed formulas*



The Purpose of Wisdom Literature:

Demonstrates that Wisdom Acknowledges Life's:

A. ***Complexities*** *– "Lady Wisdom" vs. "Woman Folly"*

B. ***Considerations*** *– "Let him turn here"*

C. ***Centrality*** *– "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom"*

Sentence Sermon:

"Properly understanding Proverbs highlights the ever present need for wisdom"

Themes to Search Out as You Read Proverbs

- ***Wisdom and the Family:***
  - ***Marriage Parents, and Children***
- ***Wisdom and Work***
  - ***Diligence, Hard Work, and Rest***
- ***Wisdom and Friends***
  - ***Kindness, Generosity, Greed***
- ***Wisdom and Suffering and Death***
  - ***Social Order, Injustice,***

The Wisdom Literature

- ***Proverbs***
- ***Job***
- ***Ecclesiastes***
- ***Song of Solomon (debated)***

Questions to Ponder:

1. How would you describe how you previously handled Proverbs?
2. How many modern day proverbs can you recall in 30 seconds?
3. Why it is important to know "Proverbs are not laws"?
4. Why do non believers so quickly embrace Proverbs?
5. Do you normally react to others with a tone of Law or Wisdom, why?
6. Describe situations where one tone is more appropriate than the other and vice versa.
7. How do you perceive Lady Folly and why?
8. How do you explain "contradictory proverbs"? e.g. Prov. 26:4-5
9. What is the most difficult aspect of knowing wisdom provides different solutions to the same problem?