

THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF WISDOM  
Proverbs 14:1-27

The first twenty-seven verses are designed to help one find the \_\_\_\_\_ of wisdom and stay on it.

- I. **Focus on the Way You are \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 1-7** (These verses stress the truth that people who pursue wisdom find \_\_\_\_\_, and those who do not experience \_\_\_\_\_.)
- A. Focus on the \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 1
1. "The wise ones of women (each) builds her house." The term "builds" is used figuratively for building up the \_\_\_\_\_ of the family.
  2. "Folly (in a woman) with her own hands tears it down." The reference is to any activity, however good in itself, which diverts a woman from her number one priority, the \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. The verse underscores the tremendous \_\_\_\_\_ of a woman in the home.
- B. Fear of the \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 2 (The LORD-Yahweh, the proper name for the God of Israel)
1. "He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD."
    - a. Reverence for God \_\_\_\_\_ and characterizes the righteous lifestyle.
    - b. One's holy manner of life is evidence that he has been influenced by God.
  2. "He whose ways are perverse, despise him."
    - a. Perverse ways are \_\_\_\_\_ ways. All sin is offensive to God (cf. Gen 39:9).
    - b. Those who \_\_\_\_\_ fear nor love the Lord make no effort to exercise self-control.
    - c. Wickedness is a proof that one has lost all \_\_\_\_\_ for God and concern about pleasing him.
- C. Focus on what comes out of your \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 3
1. "In the mouth of a fool is a rod of (a \_\_\_\_\_ producing) pride."
  2. "The lips of wise men preserve them."
    - a. Their words tend to \_\_\_\_\_ others, and \_\_\_\_\_ peace and good will.
    - b. They speak with courtesy and caution and thus avoid potential \_\_\_\_\_.
    - c. Theirs is the opposite of the "mouth of the fool".
- D. Focus on what produces \_\_\_\_\_ gain Vs 4
1. "In the absence of oxen, the crib is clean."
  2. "Great harvests come from the strength of an ox."
    - a. The ox was used for plowing and \_\_\_\_\_ the grain.
    - b. Without the ox there is no \_\_\_\_\_ to put into the storage bin.
    - c. The advantages of keeping an ox far \_\_\_\_\_ the disadvantages.
    - d. An \_\_\_\_\_ of time and effort is essential to an abundant harvest in any career field.
- E. Focus on being \_\_\_\_\_ with your statement about something Vs 5)
1. "A faithful witness will not lie."
    - a. He cannot be \_\_\_\_\_ to swerve from the truth by threat or bribe.
    - b. To him, there is no other \_\_\_\_\_ than being informed and thus giving an honest report.
  2. "A false witness will utter lies,"
    - a. Lies pour out of his mouth like \_\_\_\_\_ from the nostrils.
    - b. To him the truth has no \_\_\_\_\_, only his advancement matters.
- F. Search for \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 6-7
1. Wisdom will be found only by those with the right \_\_\_\_\_ attitude. Vs 6

2. When you recognize a foolish person (usually by looking at their behavior, listening to their words, and evaluating what is important to them) \_\_\_\_\_ yourself from their presence lest you \_\_\_\_\_ like them. Vs 7

## II. Understanding the \_\_\_\_\_ (14:8-19)

- A. The Prudent (A person who is \_\_\_\_\_, wise, careful, \_\_\_\_\_, cautious, uses discretion and is \_\_\_\_\_ sighted)
  1. A prudent person weighs his steps carefully. He notes the various \_\_\_\_\_ open to him and deliberately chooses the one he believes to be \_\_\_\_\_. He considers the \_\_\_\_\_ behind his actions and the \_\_\_\_\_ of those actions. Vs :8a
  2. A prudent person finds favor from others because of his actions and words. Vs 9b
  3. The home of the prudent sees the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord Vs 11b
  4. A prudent person will \_\_\_\_\_ impending trouble and danger by the way he lives Vs 14b, 15b-16a
  5. A prudent person, desiring to \_\_\_\_\_ from the LORD, will find that which he has \_\_\_\_\_ to bring honor and respect. Vs 18b
- B. The Fool (It refers to one of several types of fools in Scripture, especially in Proverbs. Such people are usually unable to deal with life in a successful, practical way and are lacking in religious or spiritual sympathies. Fools do not understand issues, for they conduct their lives in haze darkness. Fools act rashly and their laughter is senseless. As the proverb goes, they are always going to the left, not the right.)<sup>1</sup>
  1. A fool will \_\_\_\_\_ follow that which will deceive him/her Vs 8b
  2. A fool will boast or make a joke about their sin and never realize its deception Vs 9a
  3. A fool's \_\_\_\_\_ will not stand or last, but will be destroyed Vs 11a
  4. A fool believes their way is the \_\_\_\_\_ way to live, but it ultimately results in death Vs 12
  5. A fool will plunge headlong (\_\_\_\_\_) into something without giving a thought to the evil consequences that it will bring Vs 16
  6. A fool's anger will cause him to behave in a matter that is self-destructive Vs 17-18a

## III. The Cause and Effect \_\_\_\_\_ (14:20-27)

- A. Wisdom recognizes that there is nothing which is causeless and unaccounted for in life.
  1. The sources of \_\_\_\_\_ and attraction Vs 20
  2. The sources of contempt and of \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 21 "
  3. The sources of perplexity or \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 22
  4. The causes of \_\_\_\_\_ and loss Vs 23-24
  5. The sources of \_\_\_\_\_ security Vs 25
- B. Conclusion (14:26-27)
  1. The foregoing instruction comes to an \_\_\_\_\_ conclusion in the concept of the fear of the Lord.
    - a. "In the fear of Yahweh is a strong fortress."
    - b. Godly fear casts out all fear of \_\_\_\_\_ and makes the believer confident and bold.
  2. Furthermore, "for his children there shall be a place of refuge." The children of a godly person learn to trust in God from their \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 26
  3. "The fear of Yahweh is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death"
    - a. The fear of the Lord produces \_\_\_\_\_ to God
    - b. It produces graces and virtues, and thus prepares the soul for \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 27

<sup>1</sup> Baker, W., & Carpenter, E. E. (2003). *The complete word study dictionary: Old Testament* (p. 516). Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers.