

# Wise Companions

*Proverbs 13:20-25*

*Puritan Reformed Church - Pastor David Reece*

*Lord's Day July 31st, Anno Domini 2022*

## OUTLINE OF PROVERBS:

### 1) Child / Youth - Collection I<sup>1</sup>

1:1-7 - Introduction

**Purpose:** 1:2-3 - 2 To hear wisdom [Hokmah] and instruction [musar], To see the words of understanding, 3 To grab the instruction [musar] of success [haskel], Justice [truth], judgment [choice], and equity [order/beauty];

**Thesis:** 1:7 - 7 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

A - 1:8-19 - The Father's Invitation vs. The Gang's Invitation

B - 1:20-33 - Wisdom Rebukes the simple

C - 2:1-22 - The Father Warns against evil men and the unchaste woman ji

D - 3:1-4:27 - The Father Commands that teaching be heeded

D' - 5:1-6:35 - The Father warns against the unchaste woman

C' - 7:1-27 - The Father Warns against the Woman Folly

B' - 8:1-36 - Wisdom's invitation to the simple

A' - 9:1-18 - Wisdom's Invitation vs. Folly's Invitation to the simple

### 2) Young Man / Adult - Collection II - 10:1-22:16 - The 375 Proverbs of Solomon

### 3) Young Man / Adult - Collection III - 22:17-24:22 - The Thirty Sayings of the Wise

### 4) Young Man / Adult - Collection IV - 24:23-34 - Further Sayings of the Wise

### 5) Father / Leader - Collection V - 25:1-29:27 - More Proverbs of Solomon from Hezekiah's Men

### 6) Father / Leader - Collection VI - 30:1-33 - The Sayings of Agur Son of Jakeh

### 7) Father / Leader - Collection VII - 31:1-31:31 - The Sayings of Lemuel

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<sup>1</sup> Collection I outline Modified from Bruce Waltke NICOT: Proverbs - page 12

## TEXT - PROVERBS 13:20-25

### V. 20-25 - Everlasting Destination

**20 He who walks with wise men will be wise,  
But the companion of fools will be destroyed.**

- 1) V. 20 - Bad company corrupts good morals
  - a) Many business and self help books will tell you that you are largely an admixture of the 5-10 people you spend the most time around
  - b) Walking with the wise:
    - i) Persons - spending time around the wise will tend to make one wise. The example of speech, the way of responding, the subjects focused upon, the methods used, the connections with other persons made and encouraged
    - ii) Books / Publications
    - iii) Music
    - iv) Videos
    - v) Games
  - c) Companions of Fools
    - i) Persons
    - ii) Books / Publications
    - iii) Music
    - iv) Video
    - v) Games
  - d) You must seek to influence or drive away fools, not be influenced by them.
- 2) The difficult to tempt man is avoiding unnecessary temptations
  - a) Sun Tzu's The Art of War - "The general who is skilled in defense hides in the most secret recesses of the earth; he who is skilled in attack flashes forth from the topmost heights of heaven. Thus on the one hand we have ability to protect ourselves; on the other, a victory that is complete."
  - b) We all pretend that we are less influenceable than we are.
  - c) If you are so good an avoiding sinful temptation, then why are you defending yourself so incompetently and attacking so incompetently?

**21 Evil pursues sinners,**

**But to the righteous, good shall be repaid.**

- 3) V. 21 - You reap what you sow
- 4) Quantity and Quality over time
- 5) Blessing and Cursing
- 6) Health, Wealth, Wisdom, Relationships, Power

**22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children,  
But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.**

- 7) V. 22 - stable wealth across generations for the wise, but involuntary servitude for the fool (Gates and Bezos serve us and will not stably keep their wealth for Satan)
- 8) The shadows of great men are institutions
- 9) Children - it is easy to make money and ignore your kids
- 10) Children's Children - it is harder to train your children to be wise and to work hard and to gradually bring them into the management of the estate

**23 Much food is in the [uncultivated] fallow ground of the poor,  
And for lack of justice there is waste [Lit. what is swept away].**

- 11) V. 23 - corruption prevents productivity
- 12) The poor are poor because of laziness or hardship or lack of time
  - a) Hardship - natural process - economic failure, disaster or plague, health, crime human, war human, demon
  - b) Laziness
  - c) Lack of time
- 13) Do not eat unless you work - the lazy are urged on to work
- 14) Keep the fruits of your labor - work is rewarded by its own fruits
- 15) violators of your property should be punished -
- 16) Expensive justice system
- 17) Slow justice system
- 18) Corporate welfare
- 19) Regulation and monopoly

**24 He who spares his rod hates his son,  
But he who loves him disciplines him [early] promptly.**

- 20) V. 24 - loving your children means you will use the rod on the back, but hating them means you will be slow to discipline or never will.
- 21) "A hard way to wisdom is better than a soft way to death." Kidner
- 22) Sparing the rod is not giving it much
- 23) Early in life and prompt upon violation

**25 The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul,  
But the stomach of the wicked shall be in want.**

24)

25) V. 25 - look back at verses 19, 12, and 2.

- a) 2 - A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.
- b) 12 - Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.
- c) 19 - A desire accomplished is sweet to the soul, But it is an abomination to fools to depart from evil.
- d) 25 - The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul, But the stomach of the wicked shall be in want.