

## OUTLINE OF PROVERBS

### 1A THE PROPER CONDUCT OF YOUNG MEN chap 1-9

The phrase “my son” is used 16 times in the first 9 chapters. This tells us who the recipient of the book is – it is for the sons of Solomon, the royal line who must prepare to lead the nation, and need wisdom to do their task well. But it is also sound counsel for every young person of both sexes.

This section is made up of short discourses, and is substantially different from the rest of the book. The language is very picturesque, metaphors abound, and the language strongly appeals to the imagination.

Here we are instructed about the conflict between wisdom and folly, and the fruits that flow out of each.

### 2A THE FIRST COLLECTION OF SOLOMON’S PROVERBS chap 10-24

Here the form of writing radically changes from that of a narrative discourse to that of two line couplets that are unrelated to each other in terms of subject matter.

The characteristic of the writing is now that of terseness, brevity, and compressed truth, that appeals to the judgment.

### 3A THE SECOND COLLECTION OF SOLOMON’S PROVERBS chap 25-29

These were collected and assembled by the servants of Hezekiah many years after Solomon wrote them. They have the same form and characteristics as the first collection in chapters 10-24

### 4A THE TWO APPENDICES BY AGUR AND LEMUEL chap 30-31

The language reverts back to the short discourse form found in chapters 1-9

THEME: Wisdom from God for dealing with life

Key Verse: Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.

Proverbs 2:6 For the LORD giveth wisdom, out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.