



Can a Person Be Wise and Stupid at the Same Time?

Solomon....the wisest man in the world??

What about his sin?

What about his indiscretions with many women...with other gods?

Proverbs...why use sinners to write the Word of God?

Why use me to work for God?

Questions you have for God: _____

FACT#1: Woven into human fabric is the desire to learn and understand.

FACT#2: Our minds set us apart from animals.

- We analyze, conceptualize, theorize, discuss, and debate everything from science to the supernatural.
- We build schools, institutes, and universities where learned professors can teach us about the world and about life.

KNOWLEDGE IS GOOD, BUT THERE IS A VAST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "KNOWLEDGE" (HAVING THE FACTS) AND "WISDOM" (APPLYING THOSE FACTS TO LIFE).

FACT#3: We may amass knowledge, but without wisdom....without wisdom...without wisdom, our "knowledge" is useless.

WE MUST LEARN HOW TO LIVE OUT WHAT WE KNOW!

Solomon...God's chosen one to impart wisdom through proverbs (a concise sentence that conveys moral truth).

Proverbs that were written by Solomon with the anointing, blessing, approval by God contains a holy mixture of common sense and timely warnings.

Although they are not meant to teach doctrine, a person who follows the Proverbs of the Bible's advice will walk closely with God.

Since the word "proverb" comes from a Hebrew word that means "to rule or to govern", these sayings, reminders, and admonitions provide profound advice for governing our lives.

As a "governor" on a carburetor or accelerator on a car will keep a vehicle from speeding or going in an excessive speed, the Proverbs in the Word of God acts as a governor of our lives to keep us from going against what the Law states and helps us to regulate our excesses to meet God's command for living a godly life.

The Blueprint found in Proverbs:

- A. Wisdom for Young People (1:1—9:18)
- B. Wisdom for All People (10:1—24:24)
- C. Wisdom for the Leaders (25:1---31:31)



Applying truths and actions to the wise sayings that impart Godly wisdom... will go far beyond what man's wisdom might provide and teach.

Keeping a balanced life will help us to be a better steward of God's Word and Wisdom.

Megathemes (Themes of Importance)

1. **Wisdom**—*God wants His people to be wise. 2 kinds of people portray 2 contrasting paths of life.*
 - ✓ *The fool=wicked, stubborn person who hates or ignores God.*
 - ✓ *The wise person=seeks to know and love God.*

Relevance: When we choose God's way, He grants us wisdom. His Word, the Bible, leads us to live rightly, have right relationships, and make right decisions.
2. **Relationships**—*Proverbs Gives us advice for developing our personal relationships with friends, family members, and coworkers.*

Note:

 - ✓ *In every relationship, we must show love, dedication, and high moral standards.*
 - ✓ *To relate to people, we need consistency, tact, and discipline to use the wisdom God gives us. If we don't treat others according to the wisdom God gives, our relationships will suffer*
3. **Speech**—*What we say shows our real attitude toward others. How we talk reveals what we're really like. Our speech is a test of how wise we have become.*
 - ✓ *To be wise in our speech we need to use self-control. Our words should be honest and well-chosen.*
4. **Work**—*God controls the final outcome of all we do.*
 - ✓ *We are accountable to carry out our work with diligence and discipline, not laziness.*
 - ✓ *Because God evaluates how we live, we should work purposefully.*
 - ✓ *We must never...never be lax or self-satisfied in using our skills.*

God has a wonderful plan for our lives. Even before we were born we were in God's plans for the success of our well being.

- *He provided steps to achieve the impossible as we began our journey in life.*
- *He provided a means for our well being...but, even if we were born in poverty and in a 3rd world country, He established a way to be a force for good in this world.*
- *He gives us insight into the choices we must make to get along in life as we search for the right thing (choice) to do to better our world.*
- *He has given us the ability to think before acting.*
- *Note: There are some people who are born with no ability to make right choices (severely handicapped), but they are God's children who are dependent on God and others to provide their daily sustenance. Having a severely mentally and physically challenged grandson in our family, we, more than anyone, understand that God provides for his precious little ones.*

No matter what, we will honor God with our praise and give glory to HIM for the privilege we have had to love and work with this "angel" brought into our family..

Moving boundary stones!
“There has been a shift in the paradigm.”

Dictionary meaning “paradigm”: A framework containing the basic assumptions, ways of thinking, and methodology that are commonly accepted by members of a scientific community.

George Barna, prominent pollster focusing on evangelical issues, has identified these six “megathemes” of change in contemporary Christian life in the US —

- **1. The Christian Church is becoming less theologically literate.**
- **2. Christians are becoming more ingrown and less outreach-oriented.**
- **3. Growing numbers of people are less interested in spiritual principles and more desirous of learning pragmatic (simple/informal) solutions for life.**
- **4. Among Christians, interest in participating in community action is escalating.**
- **5. The postmodern insistence on tolerance is winning over the Christian Church.**
- **6. The influence of Christianity on culture and individual lives is largely invisible.**

Join us in taking the initiative in maintaining the original paradigm for our nation for the sake of the church.

Take the initiative in maintaining the original gospel for our church for the sake of the world.

“The Lord has called us “...for such a time as this” (Esther 4:14).